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September 2008  
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## A collage of various iOS app icons arranged on a black background with a white dot pattern. The icons include Apple Maps (blue compass), Twitter (blue bird), Sunflower (yellow flower), iPod (red square with white dot), Apple Pencil (blue square with white pencil), Clock (gray square with white clock face), Cow (green square with black and white cow), and others like a gear, a star, a person running, and a calendar. The icons are of different sizes and are slightly overlapping each other.

## Which ones are worth the download?

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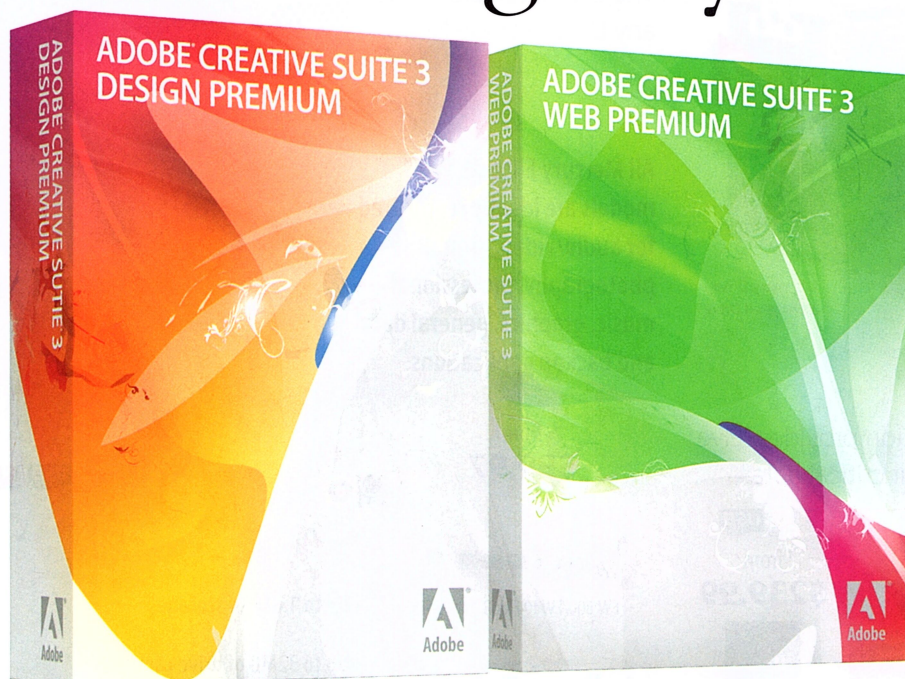
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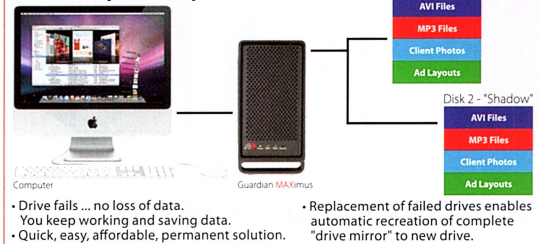


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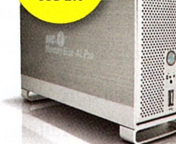
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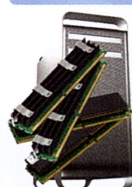
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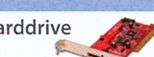
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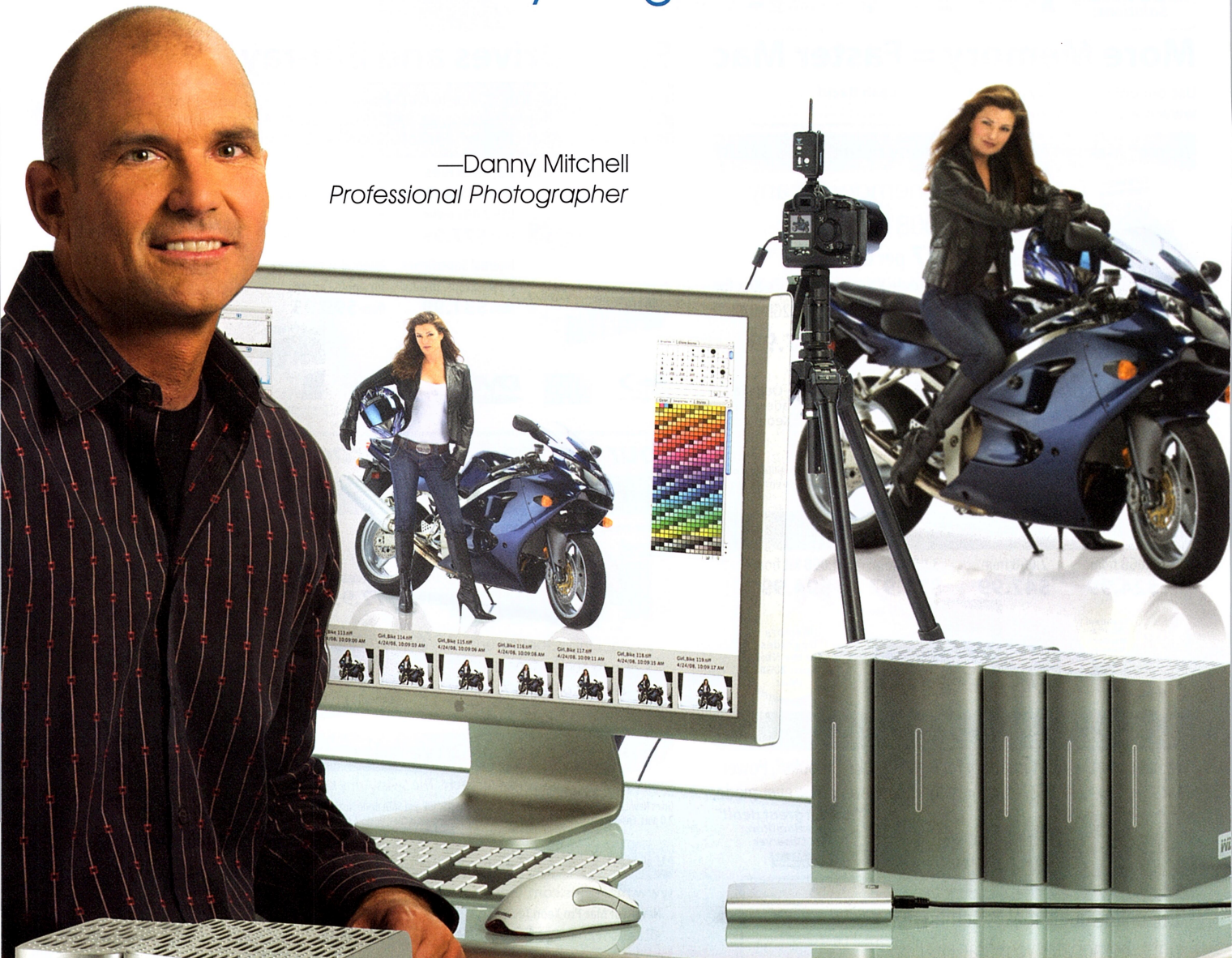
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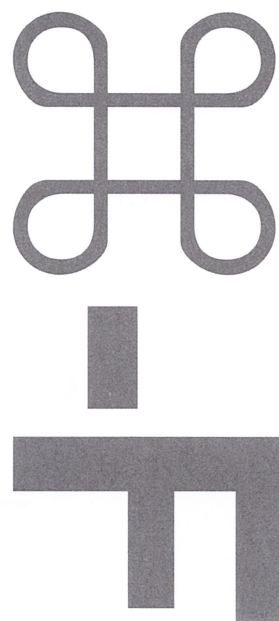
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## ⌘-A

**012 Matthew JC. Powell**

Does Apple still make Macs, or what?

## ⌘-V

**015 AMW readers**

iPhone stories and some new Mac users share their experiences.

## ⌘-I

**034 Fleur Doidge**

MyMac takes over

## ⌘-K

**044 Tony Williams**

Setting up a Mac network

## ⌘-Y

**066 Martin Levins**

Don't forget about ergonomics

## ⌘-O

**064 Keith White**

The latest computer books

## ⌘-Q

**082 Alex Kidman**

The violent life of gadgets

## ⌘-N

**019 Apple's second Store opens.**

Apple expands into Chatswood, much to the chagrin of Melbourne's Mac community. Meanwhile Apple is proving to be an uncommunicative gatekeeper for the App Store.

**024 Pro File:** Jeff Klopmeier/Zak Claxton

**026 Off the Net**

## ⌘-1

**028 Portable storage**

**Anthony Caruana**

Mobility and massive data requirements needn't be mutually exclusive. Indeed, they rarely are. From USB sticks to hard drives to online storage, we'll weigh up your options.

## ⌘-2

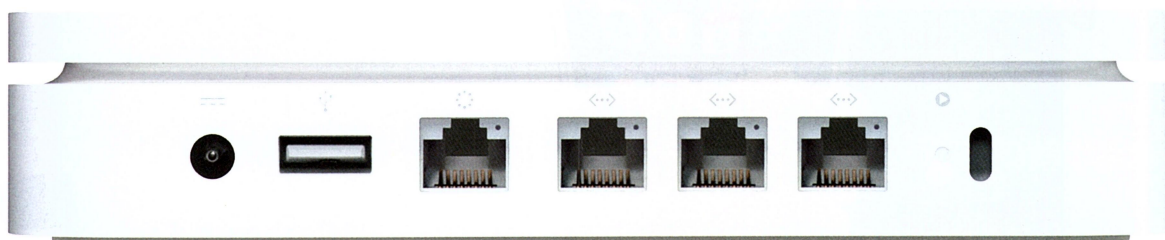
**036 iPhone 2.0**

**Dan Moren and various authors**

The iPhone update brings more than just additional functionality to your iPhone or iPod touch — it also opens the door to the App Store. But of all the hundreds of applications now on sale, which ones are worth the bandwidth you spend downloading them?







## ⌘-?

- 047** Browse the web better
- 049** Get selective about Recent Items
- 051** Record any sound on your Mac
- 055** Put displays to sleep with the keyboard
- Leave links in the background
- Use a spring-loaded Path Bar in the Finder
- 056** Put program icons to work
- See file paths using title bar icons
- 059** Manage Time Machine
- Open a new window when switching programs
- 060** Get help with spelling
- Hide a Boot Camp partition
- Access hidden preferences
- 063** Solve Keychain hassles
- Extend your wireless network
- Add horizontal scrolling for older mice
- 064** Beginners start here: e-mail configuration problems

## ⌘-J

- 069** QuarkXPress 8
- More simplicity and ease of use, but few new features
- ⌘ 1/2
- 072** CrossOver Mac Professional
- Windows apps on your Mac without Windows
- ⌘
- 074** Teleport for iPhone
- Control remote machines with your iPhone
- ⌘
- 075** Canon EOS 450D
- dSLR made easy and fun
- ⌘

## 076 Twitter apps for iPhone

- Keep you in touch
- Twitterrific for iPhone**
- ⌘
- Twinkle**
- ⌘ 1/2
- Twittelator**
- ⌘ 1/2

## 077 Firefox 3.0

- A worthy and welcome upgrade
- ⌘ 1/2







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Matthew JC. Powell has a deep and abiding passion for the Mac, the magazine and its readers — in no particular order.

## The M word

Another month, another iPhone-based cover on Australian Macworld. And iPhone based news. And iPhone-based feature. And even some iPhone-based reviews.

Check that cover again — what magazine was this? Australian iPhone-world? No, didn't think so.

Undeniably, the iPhone is a computer as much as it's a phone. And since the operating system it runs is "Mac OS X iPhone" it's difficult to argue that it's anything other than a Mac. (Though given how flaky and crash-prone it is I'm not sure Apple necessarily wants people to make that connection.)

Nonetheless, when you sit down to read a magazine called "Macworld" you're most likely looking for news and reviews and opinions and features about Macs, and by Macs you probably mean something in a somewhat larger form factor than the iPhone. I get that. Trust me, that's what I think about when I'm sitting down to produce a magazine called "Macworld" too.

Thing is, it's been a decidedly slow couple of news months as far as the actual Mac is concerned. Any updates to the Mac Pro? Nope. Mac mini? Nope. MacBook? MacBook Pro? MacBook Air?

Nope. Nope. Nope.

What about a new iMac. Surely there's a new iMac by now?

Nope.

It seems that as far as the world of Mac is concerned (see what I did there?) it's all been about iPhone lately.

And why shouldn't it be? iPhone in all its glory has been all over the news lately. Not always in a good way though.

It seems pretty clear that Apple embarrassingly overstretched itself in placing the iPhone 3G, App Store, MobileMe and iPhone 2.0 releases on the one weekend — to the point even where Steve Jobs publicly apologised for the mess and promoted Eddy Cue (formerly running the iTunes Store) to responsibility for all of Apple's online operations including the App Store and MobileMe.

Whoever was responsible for the App Store and MobileMe before is, presumably, never to be heard from again. Let us not speak of such things.

Well, the dust has settled somewhat on that whole situation, and the next few months do indeed look like being rich with Mac-related news and releases.

Wide availability of Intel's Montevina chips should mean an update to the MacBook and MacBook Pro lines some time in September. The Mac mini is long overdue for a serious refresh and the AppleTV is looking like a usable product now that we have some TV shows trickling through to the Australian iTunes Store. When the switch gets flicked to add movies that will be a device well worth adding to your home theatre setup.

(I would mention that the Apple TV is also immeasurably enhanced if you have an iPhone with Apple's Remote application on it, but I wasn't going to mention the iPhone was I.)

In short, there's a lot of stuff that's been expected, rumoured and discussed in the Mac sphere for quite some time now that's all been on various back burners while the iPhone

3G got to market. It's time for some of that to return to the boil — or at least a faster simmer. The next couple of months ought to be interesting indeed.

All of which, it must be said, raises once again a question that was raised last year when Leopard was delayed for months while the original iPhone consumed all of Apple's finite resources. There's only so much one company can be expected to do, and Apple's business in recent years may well have exceeded the growth of the company itself.

Growth is great, but there is such a thing as capacity, and I think Apple's looking at that ceiling about now.

Apple can't afford to split its businesses formally into iPhone/Mac or hardware/software or products/services — all of the elements of the company are too dependent on others. And frankly it's that interconnectedness that makes Apple's products better than what the rest of the industry can muster.

So maybe rather than breaking the company up it needs to bring partners in. Increase its capacity by letting other companies share some of the load, and some of the risk and responsibility. Yes, it would mean letting go of some degree of control, and it would mean having to be a little bit less secretive — but the move to Intel has already lowered those walls a little bit, so we're talking about incremental change here.

And on the upside, we might get to see a few more Macs. ☞

Matthew J. Powell

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Hotlinks

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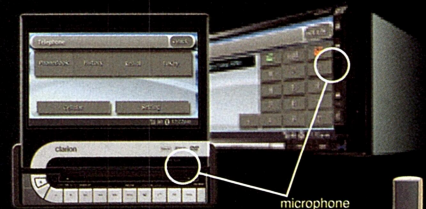
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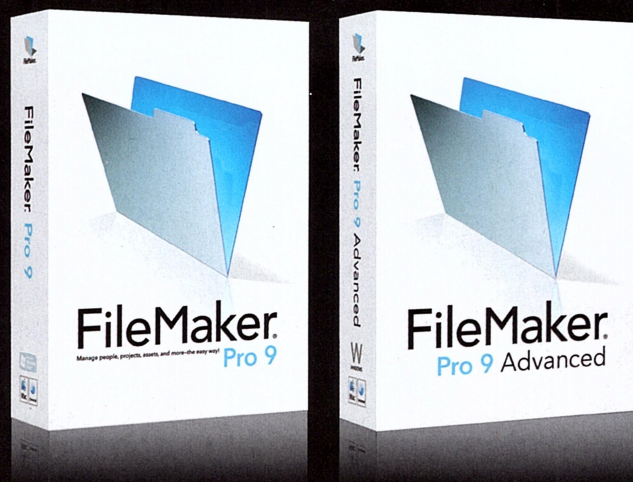
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Each month, Conexus (02 9975 0900) is giving away a set of JBL Reference 220 headphones valued at \$140 to The Australian Macworld reader who sends in what we deem to be the most interesting letter.

Earphones have always been a smaller, more portable alternative to traditional headphones, and JBL Reference 200 Series earphones are certainly that. But Reference 200 Series earphones are designed to perform more like their larger counterparts. Is it possible to get realistic, full-spectrum sound from virtually weightless earphones that can easily slip into a pocket? Would we have brought it up if the answer were no?

Letters should be e-mailed to [matthew.powell@niche.com.au](mailto:matthew.powell@niche.com.au) with a subject header of "Command - V" or by post to *Australian Macworld* Mailbox, 170 Dorcas Street, South Melbourne, Victoria 3205. Letters of fewer than 200 words are given preference. Comments posted to the forums on [www.macworld.com.au](http://www.macworld.com.au) are also eligible for the JBL Reference 220 headphones. We reserve the right to edit letters and probably will. To be eligible for the JBL Creature II prize, you must include your full name and address, including state or territory.

## JBL Reference 220 headphones letter of the month

### iPhone over the ditch

Smack? I read your August commentary not so much with interest, as with envy. You were justifiably critical of the lack of price competitiveness amongst the three Australian telcos offering the iPhone, but please spare a thought for your cousins across the ditch.

Only one telco in New Zealand is currently carrying the iPhone, and to use your carefully chosen words, Vodafone NZ looks very "opportunistic and greedy". While the best option is probably the 8GB iPhone for \$NZ449 on a monthly plan of \$NZ130 for 500MB data, those of us wanting different plans or wanting to keep our existing plans are facing a price tag of \$NZ979 for an 8GB iPhone and \$NZ1129 for the 16GB model. With the plan to pay for on top. I certainly don't begrudge Apple charging

a premium for such a great product, and I'd gladly pay it, but I won't pay it to Vodafone NZ.

From my side of the Tasman I'd be giving your telcos a pat on the back, not a smack on the face.

**Geof Franks**  
Christchurch, New Zealand

*Very good point, Geof. What's more, since the iPhone was released, Optus and Telstra have both significantly improved their iPhone plans, not to mention Three now offering very competitive plans if you buy an unlocked phone elsewhere and bring it over. So while competition may not yet have delivered the result we might have hoped for, we are doing better than you guys. Not to mention the Wallabies thrashing the All Blacks 34-19. That must have hurt. — M.J.C.P.*

### Reduce, reuse, recycle

Can I just make this observation on your report "Apple dinged on the environment" (AMW 08.2008)?

I have owned a number of Macs since the 1980s and, as with most things, there comes a time when replacement is desirable. But, I have never had to throw the outgoing machine on the scrap heap. In fact they have usually been sold on or given to a good home as perfect working units.

My point is this. Apple should be given some brownie points on the green scale for producing (largely) exceptionally reliable equipment which lasts a long time. Longevity is itself a plus for the environment.

If you want to see the other side of the computer industry coin just check out the next garbage collection in your street and count all the grey boxes — you won't see many Macs.

Having said all that, Apple could do even better. As could we all.

**Michael Maher**  
Bilgola Plateau, NSW

### Taxation without representation

The Australian Taxation Office has been using FileNet Forms Manager to create an app called e-Record which is a free downloadable accounts package. It works very well and I use it for my business.

I am at a loss to understand why e-Tax (which would be a simple form to create in Forms Manager) has not been created. Forms Manager creates forms that work on both platforms.

**Trevor**  
Via e-mail

*The ATO's long-standing refusal to create a version of e-Tax for Mac users is starting to look less logical and more stubborn with each passing year. Mac users shouldn't have to pay Microsoft for a copy of Windows so that they can submit their taxes online. It's absurd and needs to change. — M.J.C.P.*

### Short and sweet

Just a thought. The Starbucks closures suddenly make the Telstra free wireless offering for our iPhones a bit lame, does it not? The Optus plans look even better by comparison.

**Simon Pryor**  
East Brunswick Victoria

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS.** Mentor letter of the month 1. Instructions on how to enter form part of these conditions of entry. 2. To enter send tips or queries to [matthew.powell@niche.com.au](mailto:matthew.powell@niche.com.au) with a subject header of "Command - V". Entries will be judged by the editorial staff of *Australian Macworld*. The judges' decision in relation to any aspect of the competition is final and binding on every person who enters. No correspondence will be entered into. Chance plays no part in determining the winner(s). Each entry will be individually judged based on its degree of interest. 4. Employees, their immediate families and agencies associated with this competition are not permitted to enter. 5. The Promoter accepts no responsibility for late or misdirected entries. 6. The best entry/entries as determined by the judges will win the prize(s). 7. The Promoter is neither responsible nor liable for any change in the value of the prize occurring between the publish date and the date the prize(s) is claimed. 8. The prize(s) is not transferable and will not be exchanged for cash. 9. The winner(s) will be notified by mail. 10. All entries become the property of the Promoter. 11. The collection, use and disclosure of personal information provided in connection with this competition is governed by the Privacy Notice. 12. The Promoter is Niche Media Pty Ltd of 170 Dorcas Street, South Melbourne, Victoria 3205 Ph 03 9948 4900, (ABN 13 064 613 529).





## Crossing over

Rob Griffiths does a comprehensive job reviewing ways of setting up and using Windows on a Mac with Parallels or Fusion in 06.2008 of AMW. In the end though both still require Windows to be installed, so I'm a little puzzled as to why options for running Windows programs without needing Windows installed weren't investigated in the same article, since some exist.

I'm aware that Codeweavers has Cross-over Mac that allows Windows programs to run without Windows and I've also read of an open source project trying to achieve the same end. What I don't know is how well they run, so some information would have come in handy.

I bought a Mac to escape Windows, and have since discovered that there some Windows programs I really can't live without. It'd be nice to think that I don't have to go to the expense of buying Windows again just to run these. Presumably not having to run Windows in a virtual environment might also mean the programs run a little faster.

**John Paterson**  
Carlton North, Victoria

*Your wish is my ☺, John. Check out our review of CrossOver Mac in this issue of AMW. — M.J.C.P.*

## New Mac fan

I am only a recent convert to the Apple way of life and I have now been using my Mac laptop (iBook G4) for about two years. I have to say, it's been a very pleasant two years. I cannot recall a major problem since I purchased it.

That's one of the main reasons why I was one of the many thousands who queued up on Friday the 11th of July to buy the new iPhone. It's been great to have such an easy to use phone and its about the first time I have used a mobile phone to get on the internet. It just makes it so easy to do complex tasks. Great work by Apple. I do have two questions regarding the iPhone. When I send a text message is there a copy and paste function on the phone, so that if I wish to send the same text message but to a different contact name, can I do it? I know you can send group text messages, but if you wish to personalise a number of text messages can you simply copy and paste the previous message but put in the new person's name in the text message? Is there some software you can download onto the iPhone to convert the camera into a video camera as well?

**Robert Viskovich**  
Perth, WA

*Sorry to disappoint you Robert, but both of the things you want your iPhone to do are beyond its capabilities. It can't copy and paste text, and it can't make videos, even with external software. There is a work-around for the copy-paste issue though, at least for what you want to do. If you write your messages using the iPhone's Notes application, you can save the text in a Note, then e-mail it (using the envelope icon at the bottom of the screen) to different recipients, changing it each time you do so. Once you're done you can delete the Note. Video will have to wait for new hardware I'm afraid. — M.J.C.P.*

## Hotlinks

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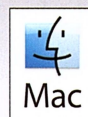
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## Hotlinks

<http://www.apple.com/au/retail/chatswoodchase/>  
Apple's Chatswood Chase retail store

# Apple opens second Australian Store

**H**ot on the heels of the opening of the George Street Apple Store in June, Apple opened its second Australian Store in August, this time in the north-shore suburb of Chatswood.

The move surprised many Mac users, who were expecting Apple to open a store in Melbourne's Chadstone shopping centre before the second Sydney store appeared. Apple has not made any announcement as to when the Chadstone Store will open – hardly surprising, given that the opening of the Chatswood Chase store was only announced a few days beforehand.

Sydney's second Apple Store, its first in a suburban shopping centre, opened to subdued scenes compared to the opening of the George Street Store. Subdued, at least, in terms of the media frenzy. The short notice and the 8am Saturday opening time seemed to keep much of the media at bay.

The Apple faithful – queued up from 6am – seemed no less enthusiastic as 9am approached. No-one queued overnight as they had outside George Street, no doubt owing to the freezing conditions in Sydney.

And the staff, as always, were buoyant. One might even say frenzied. As with the George Street opening, the entire staff of the Store ran out to greet the queue just before opening, high-fiving and cheering enthusiastically. Then they formed an honour guard, with more clapping and cheering as customers entered, running the gauntlet to collect one of 1000 free t-shirts available for the occasion.

In the first half-hour 280 customers entered the Store (not including a few who snuck back into the queue for extra t-shirts). The high-fiving gauntlet was reportedly supposed to last until the supply of t-shirts ran out, but as 10:30am came and went there were still t-shirts left over and the staff decided to tone down the cheering for the sake of their neighbours as much as for their own throats and red-raw palms.

**Smaller, but still an Apple Store.** The Store is like a microcosm of the George Street Store, offering the full range of services and products including one-to-one training, Genius Bar, a range of software, peripherals and accessories and the full range of products including iPhone which can be activated with your chosen carrier in-store.

There's also the free open WiFi network, which extends quite a way out into the shopping centre (I was able to get a pretty decent signal at a café one floor up even). Apple's neighbours at Chatswood Chase will no doubt appreciate the service they're now able to offer their customers (if not the additional ambient radiation).

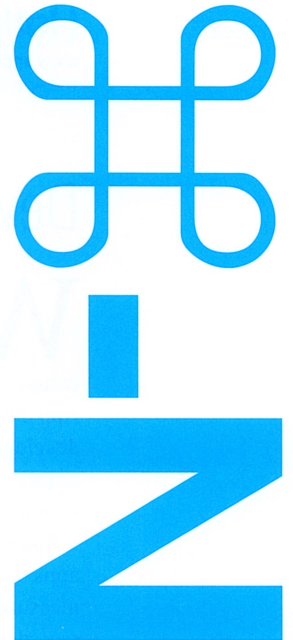
Conveniently, the WiFi network at Chatswood Chase shares the same SSID as the one in George Street, so if you've set your MacBook or iPhone to recognise that network and connect automatically, it will also recognise the network in Chatswood.

Training sessions and Genius Bar appointments weren't being taken for the opening weekend, so people could just walk in. Bookings opened on the Monday via Apple Australia's retail web site (see "Hot links").

Absent is the trademark glass staircase – but where would you put it?

**Future sites.** The expectation remains that the next Apple Store will be in Melbourne, though it's not clear whether the next one will be the long-awaited Chadstone shopping centre location or the Melbourne CBD location that has yet to be announced publicly by Apple. Apple Stores are planned for other capital cities, when "appropriate assets" (suitable locations that is) become available according to an Apple Australia source.

— Matthew JC. Powell



[APPLE NEWS]



## Developers confused by App Store antics

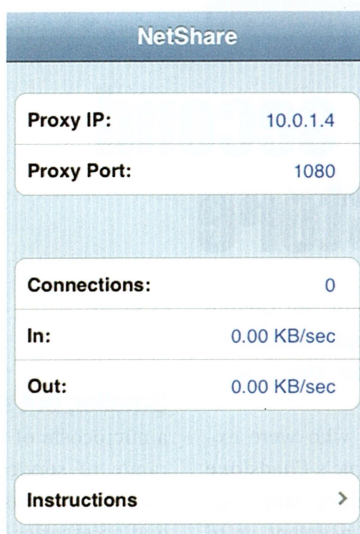
Wondering what goes into the process of determining what iPhone applications make the grade for Apple's App Store? You're not alone – the developers who write those programs sometimes find themselves wondering the same thing.

Apple's online store for iPhone apps has been a success by many measures – the company says it recorded ten million application downloads during the first weekend after its opening in July – but some kinks still need to be worked out of the system. Developers have already expressed frustration over how long it takes application updates to appear on the App Store. Now they're puzzled by why Apple decides to approve some applications for the store and remove others, often with little warning.

When Steve Jobs unveiled plans for the App Store in March, he noted that there would be limitations on what kinds of apps would gain Apple's approval. The company specifically cited porn, privacy-breaching tools, bandwidth-hogging apps, and anything illegal, though Jobs' presentation also included a category called "unforeseen." It's the nebulousness of that category – and what developers feel is a lack of communication on Apple's part – that's causing a lot of confusion among a growing number of software makers.

"Apple needs to do a lot of work to improve communications between developers and the people in charge of the App Store," said John Casasanta, president of Tap Tap Tap. "In my experience, communication has been pretty spotty so far, as opposed to the great service Apple's provided with Developer Technical Support. We have questions that have gone unanswered so far and unlike DTS, we don't even have any kind of direct contact with anyone there, unfortunately."

Consider the case of Nullriver's NetShare, an application that allows you to tether your computer to the iPhone to share the 3G connection. The application was received with some excitement from iPhone users even though US telco AT&T said it wouldn't allow data connections to be used in this way.



NetShare disappeared from the App Store a few days after it appeared, with developer Nullriver in the dark as to the reasons why. "NetShare did not violate any of the Developer or App Store agreements," the company wrote in a note posted to its web site. NetShare reappeared on the App Store later that day – only to disappear again soon after.

A few days later Nullriver said that it finally made contact with Apple, blaming the earlier lack of communication on "automated e-mail systems being employed on both ends, which resulted in e-mails being lost in transit." The company says it's working with Apple to re-

turn NetShare to the App Store, but recent reports say that it probably won't be available again in the USA version of the Store.

Still, other developers said lack of communication is a common occurrence when the App Store is involved. "It's like the App Store division is this top secret, untouchable branch of Apple," said Casasanta.

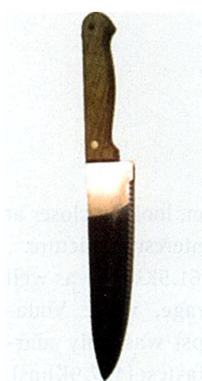
Movie lookup application Box Office joined NetShare as an app that got removed from the App Store. In a posting at MacRumors.com, Box Office developer Cyrus Najmabadi said he had no idea why the app was removed.

"Apple pulled the app without giving my any notification that they were doing it, or what their justification was for removing it," said Najmabadi. "I've tried to contact them about the issue, but it's been a complete dead end."

Speaking of dead ends, another App that has been removed from the App Store – Slasher – at least got an explanation for its disappearance. The app, which displayed a picture of a large kitchen knife and played various horror-movie sound effects when slashed about, was removed by Apple, citing the fact that some users may find it "objectionable". In which case, why was it on the App Store at all?

Likewise the popular Phone Saber app, which displays a Star Wars-style lightsabre and makes "vroom-vroom" noises as you move it around, pretty clearly violates any





number of Lucasfilm copyrights, but got onto the App Store anyway. It's now been removed at the request of copyright owners (but reportedly may return in an "official" version).

It's not just applications that get removed from the App Store that can cause developers to scratch their heads – the approval process can also be confusing, based on some of the programs that have made the grade. Take as an example an application called I Am Rich. The app, listed for \$US999.99, simply featured a picture of a jewel on the iPhone screen – I Am Rich boasted no other features. The application disappeared from the App Store long after bloggers wondered why it had ever made it through Apple's vetting process in the first place.

Episodes like this have some iPhone app makers hoping that Apple adjusts its approach to the store. In order for developers to have faith in the process Apple needs to loosen the reins a little bit and deliver "clear, consis-

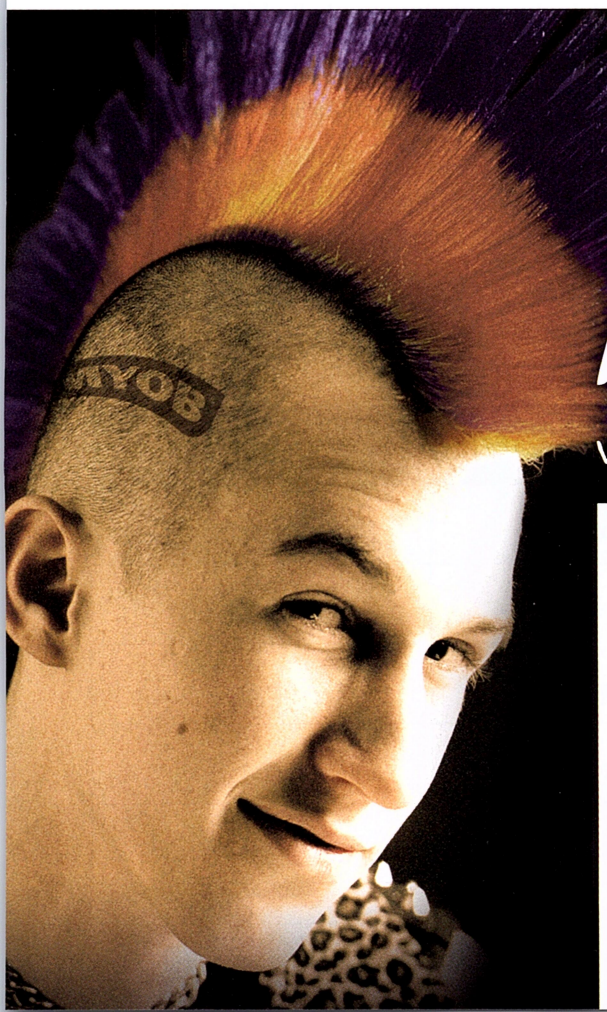
tent communication, and a application standard policy that is clear and applied universally to all developers," said one developer, who wished to remain anonymous.

Casasanta agreed: "Communication is the key here. Both between Apple and devs, and also among devs themselves."

Developers also want Apple to lift the Nondisclosure Agreement (NDA) that they are under for the already released version of the iPhone software.

"The iPhone SDK NDA has been completely hindering progress and it needs to be lifted ASAP," said Casasanta. "If Apple wants to keep things in upcoming versions of the SDK under wraps, then it should be possible to modify the NDA so that we're all able to communicate about things that are in the final, shipping version of the iPhone OS and SDK. Once this happens, iPhone development in general will improve because we'll be able to discuss issues openly and share code publicly. The iPhone platform as a whole will undoubtedly improve as a result."

While there are clearly issues with communication between Apple and the developers, ongoing speculation about Apple removing apps from the store is not good for the platform or the developers. — *Jim Dalrymple*

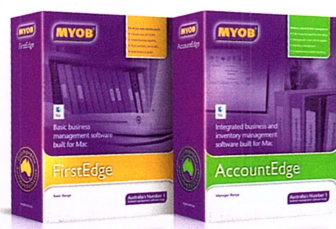



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## Which network?

There's been a lot of FUD flying around since before the iPhone 3G came out, with each of the networks claiming that their infrastructure was the fastest or, at worst, not as much slower than the other guy's as they'd have you think. All of it, of course, is marketing and you take it with a grain of salt.

We decided to compare each of the major networks from which you can buy an iPhone, and see if there really is an appreciable difference in performance. For curiosity's sake, we also tested 3G performance from Three even though that network can't actually sell you an iPhone. It's a bit tricky to test iPhone performance by traditional means, since most of the online speed tests require Flash, which is not presently supported on the iPhone. However, a few dedicated to iPhone testing have cropped up. Your particular experience may vary.

**How we tested.** We ran the test five times on each of the mobile wireless protocols the networks support: 3G, EDGE (in the case of Telstra) and GPRS. WiFi performance was not relevant to this test, so it's not here.

With the five results in each test, we eliminated the lowest and highest scores, then averaged the remaining three. Since network performance depends on a wide variety of factors we felt that was a good way to get a representative idea of the speed you could usually expect. The results are in the table below. As you can see, Telstra's NextG network topped the 3G scores, but



not by a whole lot. In fact, looking closer at the full results gave an interesting picture. Telstra's slowest time (261.5Kbps) was well below Vodafone's average, while Vodafone's fastest (456.3Kbps) was only marginally behind Telstra's fastest (457.9Kbps). In other words, while the NextG network gave overall better performance, Vodafone's network pretty much matched it on a good day.

It's also worth noting that since Optus and Vodafone share much of the same 3G infrastructure, their results should have been expected to be about equal. That there is a difference is indicative of the influence of network conditions.

**A note about Three.** Most of these tests were conducted in the editorial offices here at AMW Towers. The Three SIM we tested, however, was in Chatswood, and we tested outside the Apple Store in Chatswood Chase. So while the speed seems markedly higher, it's worth noting that in the same location the Telstra NextG SIM also performed much faster – so this is more of an indication of the variability of performance by location than the speed of the networks.

**The last word.** Don't believe the hype. The iPhone 3G performs about the same on all of the 3G networks we tested. Check the providers' coverage maps, make sure you're going to get the network you need in the places you're likely to go, and choose accordingly.

— Matthew J.C. Powell

Carrier	Speed (kilobits per second)		
	3G	EDGE	GPRS
Telstra	387.23	173.53	66.5
Optus	364.73	N/A	71.66
Vodafone	331.16	N/A	80.63
Three	462	N/A	N/A



[HARDWARE]

**Hotlinks**

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Oh my goodness, the chips

## Intel unveils Nehalem

Consumer laptops and desktops could get faster and more power-efficient when Intel releases chips built around its new Nehalem micro-architecture in the second half of 2009.

Further details about the new chips are set to be revealed at Intel Developer Forum, which will be held in San Francisco's Moscone Center shortly after this issue goes to press.

The chips will first be targeted at high-end desktops and servers but later scaled down for consumer desktops and laptops. It will be an upgrade from Intel's Core 2 chips, which are currently used in notebooks and desktops. Nehalem cuts bottlenecks of Intel's earlier Core micro-architecture to improve system speed and performance-per-watt.

"Nehalem is going to be about more performance and people always want more performance," said Nathan Brookwood, principal analyst at Insight 64.

Down the line, Intel is integrating graphics capabilities in the CPU, which should bring more power-efficiency to laptops. There will be no need for an integrated graphics chipset as a result, which will reduce power consumption. However, gamers might need a discrete graphics card for the highest graphics performance.

The first Nehalem chips, to be called Core i7, will be for high-end desktops and go into production in the fourth quarter this year. The company will also release Nehalem chips for servers, though the company didn't talk about specific release dates.

Nehalem chips will continue to carry the Core brand-name, but Intel will drop the numeric reference to 2 for its mainstream desktops and laptops. "The Core i7 brand is the first of several new identifiers," said George Alfs, an Intel spokesman.

Packing between two and eight processors cores, the first Nehalem chips will include QuickPath Interconnect (QPI) technology, which integrates a memory controller and provides a faster pipe for the CPU to communicate with system components like a graphics card and other chips. Each core will be able to execute two software threads simultaneously, so a desktop with four processor cores could run eight threads simultaneously for quicker application performance. — Agam Shah

[www.macworld.com.au](http://www.macworld.com.au)

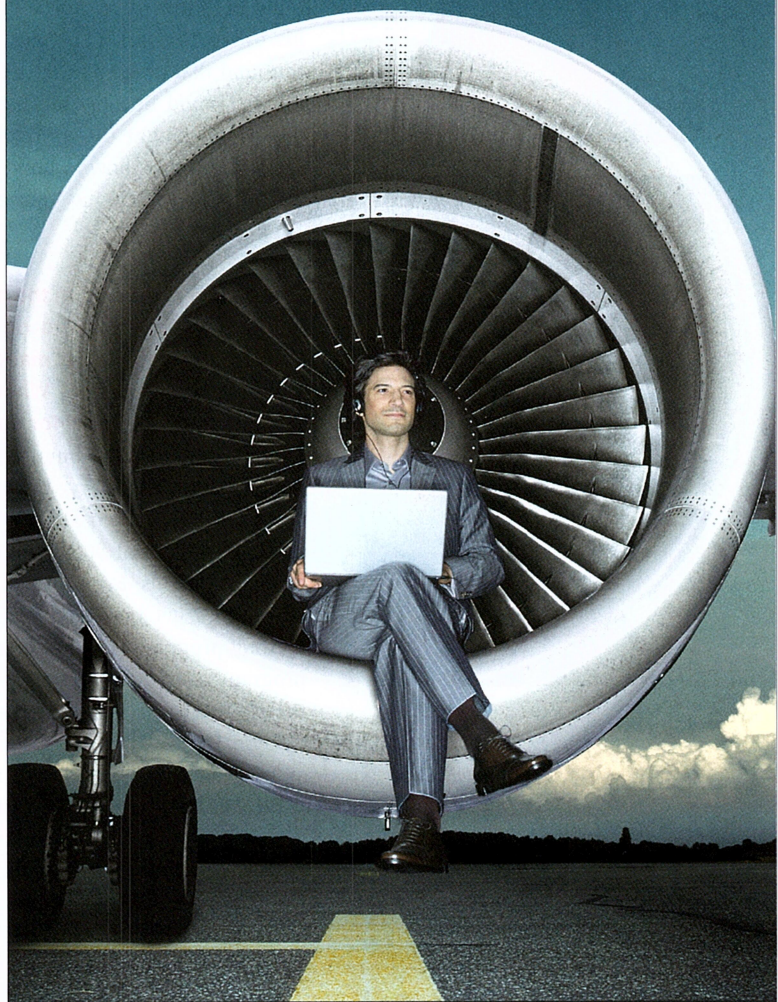
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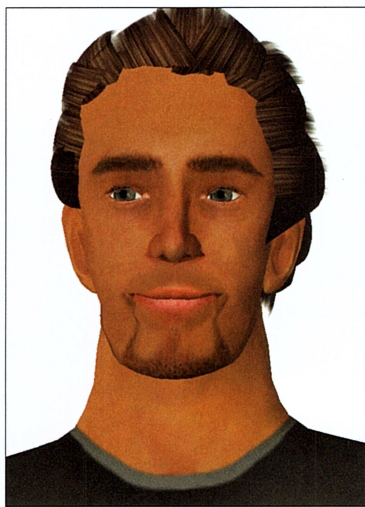
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More about Zak

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Nicecast

# Jeff Klopmeier/Zak Claxton — virtual musician(s)



Jeff Klopmeier is one of the most music-tech connected people I've run across in recent years. He's a MacBook Pro and G4 desktop-using musician who works in music technology marketing — enough on its own to get some interesting insights. What I found more fascinating is Jeff's fairly recent involvement in the Second Life music scene, where he's built a following performing both his own work (as avatar Zak Claxton) and that of luminaries like Neil Young, David Bowie and The Beatles. AMW caught up with Jeff/Zak online to discuss how to build a following without leaving your house.

— David Holloway

**You've been involved in the music industry for many years on both the performance and marketing sides of the equation. When did Macs enter the picture for you?**

In terms of integrating computers with music, from the very beginning. It was in 1989 when I started as a music major at Cal State University, Dominguez Hills. Even though I had enrolled to get into their audio recording program as an engineer, the program also included music synthesis, and I was lucky to have had

a gentleman named David Bradfield as my instructor. Dave was a big evangelist for using the Mac in music and audio, and from the get-go, I was using early sequencers and sampling applications on the Mac. Around the same time, my friends and I saw the inherent creative power of the Mac, and we scrounged and saved and begged and eventually had 8MHz Mac Classics of our own. The first application I used to create music on my own was Master Trax Pro, though at school I'd also been using early versions of MOTU Performer, Opcode Vision, and even applications like Alchemy and Sound Tools (which grew up to be Pro Tools).

**You're currently recording an album as Zak Claxton, your Second Life musician persona — tell me a little more about Zak.** My ladyfriend Christina and I heard about Second Life through a friend, and decided to check it out one night in 2006. We thought it would be a neat way for us to spend more time "together", so we signed up and rather randomly picked the surname "Claxton" from the pull-down list of available names. I became Zak, and she became Kat, which sounded kind of cool with the last name. Keep in mind that at that point, I had no idea it was even possible to perform music in Second Life, so it certainly wasn't my impetus to become a virtual rock star of any kind.

Pretty quickly, Kat and I found live music under the event listings in Second Life, and we started going to shows in-world. I asked a few people what they were using to do the performances, and it came down to a simple \$US40 piece of software called Nicecast from Rogue Amoeba. Nicecast simply takes the audio from your Mac and streams it to the address of a server where it can be accessed by listeners. Around the same time, I found myself wanting to do some song writing and recording and I knew that "Zak Claxton" was a lot more rock star sounding than Jeff Klopmeier. By the time I started moving forward on the album, I'd also developed a nice-sized fan base in Second Life who knew me as Zak, so I went with it and haven't regretted it at all.

**For those that don't use Second Life, how does virtual performance work?** Like much of Second Life, it's just a microcosm of the real world. You have an avatar — a somewhat cartoonish version of yourself, built in however you see yourself. You make connections and meet people, and it's not at all hard to find a venue that hosts open-mic events. If you find that you can play successfully in a format like that, you can move up to playing at events where you're paid by the venue owner to perform. Keep in mind that for the grand majority of people, the compensation is nothing compared to what you'd earn at real life gigs; a decent show for me nets me the kingly sum of \$US25 for an hour of playing and singing. But keep in mind, you don't have to leave your home, and if you're like me and trying to gain a fan base for a specific purpose (like an album coming out), it's an invaluable way to expose your music to people around the world. In any case, you teleport your avatar to the location of the venue, you get up on a virtual stage, you



stand in front of a virtual microphone, and your avatar goes into an animation that's built into your instrument so you look to be strumming your guitar, playing your keyboard, spinning your DJ decks, or whatever it is that you do. The important thing to keep in mind is that all of that is for visual effect only; the audio is coming from you in the real world.

**With your industry hat on, where do you see recorded music going in an era of DRM rebellion and diminishing financial returns?** Personally, I'm sick to death of the doom and gloom reaction to these issues. I feel there has never, in the history of the music and entertainment industries, been a better time to be a creative person. What we have is a massive democratisation of the process, where anyone can record, anyone can distribute, anyone can sell music using the same tools that were previously only accessible by a tiny percentage of elite artists. The downside is that the music industry was completely based on that system being in place, where a very small number of artists were selling the grand majority of the music, and those sales were 100 percent based on the movement of plastic discs. They reacted too late, and then felt forced to go with these draconian measures of DRM regulations, and RIAA lawsuits. None

of it exactly endeared music fans to the people selling the music. Exacerbating the situation on the other side of the fence was a generation of people who just assumed music should be free, since they could get on Napster and Limewire and grab it from whoever was sharing it at the moment.

I actually feel things are slowly swinging back to a middle ground, mostly due to the convenience and relative inexpensive nature of services like the iTunes Store. Given the choice, most people don't really want to steal music. Now that most of them are at least aware that what they're doing is wrong, and that higher quality music is available through legitimate sources (as opposed to the low-resolution MP3 that some 13-year-old ripped in his bedroom), I see a return to more music sales.

Things are not and will never be the same as they were before. We're too far past the days of the record store model for it to work again. And the big artists will not see the benefits of these multi-million selling albums as they did in the '70s through the '90s, but perhaps that's not a bad thing either. Music can be just fine, even in a smaller, more streamlined model that allows more people to get in the game. ☒

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[www.lexar.com](http://www.lexar.com)

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[www.sandisk.com](http://www.sandisk.com)

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[tinyurl.com/MercuryReview](http://tinyurl.com/MercuryReview)

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# TAKE IT WITH YOU

*Storage on the go*



There are many things that you simply can't get enough of in this world. With the average home hoarding in excess of 1.4TB of data according to a recent survey by Connection Research the need to store and back up data is becoming increasingly important.

If you're a mobile worker, being able to carry massive volumes of data can be tricky, even allowing for the increased size of notebook hard drives. There is, however, a range of options to suit your needs, whether it's a few gigabytes to go, or take-away terabytes.

**Why do you need portable storage?** There are numerous reasons why portable storage is handy. One is to act as an old-fashioned "sneaker-net". There will be times when the fastest and easiest way to move files from one computer to another will be via an intermediate storage device. This can be in a meeting, with a visitor to your office or when your network isn't behaving well.

Another case might be when the hard disk in your portable Mac is just about full. You can buy or make a portable external drive that you can store your iTunes and iPhoto libraries on. That often liberates quite a bit of space.

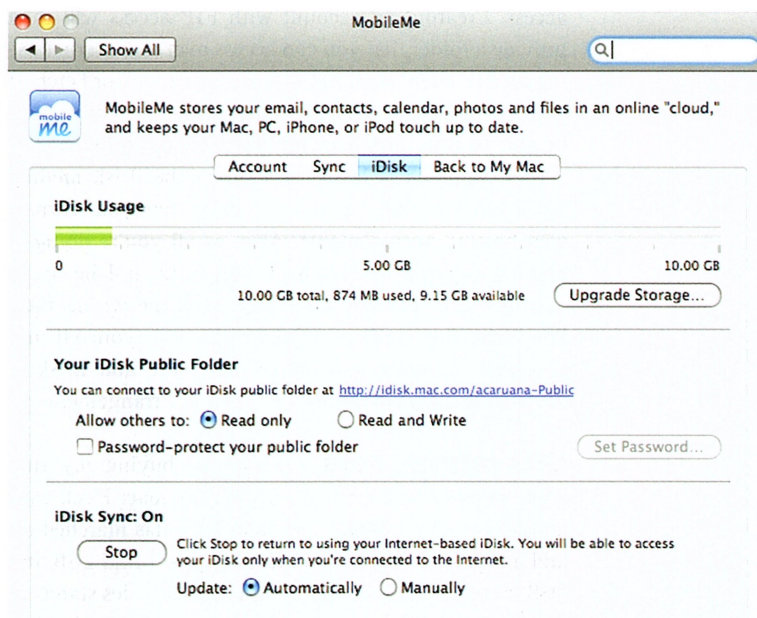
If you're worried that the latest OS X update may cause havoc with your system you can use a program like Carbon Copy Cloner or SuperDuper to copy a bootable version of your system to an external hard drive. Clone your system to the external disk, boot from it to check that it works and then apply the update to the cloned system. If it all works, you can update your main system with more confidence.

Finally, there's the issue of mobile backup. Just because you're on the road doesn't mean you shouldn't keep protecting your data. A portable hard drive or USB memory key can be an easy way to backup key files while you're travelling. The trick is not to store the backup drive with your computer in case the computer is stolen or meets with an unfortunate accident.

**Remote hard drives.** One easy way to carry lots of data with you is to not carry it at all and use an online service. That way, your data is remotely stored, making it a good backup solution, and accessible from anywhere with an internet connection.

Apple's MobileMe is one such service. It uses your iDisk as a synchronisation point for data between Apple's servers and your computer. Data you store in your iDisk is automatically synchronised to Apple's servers.

I tested this aspect of MobileMe by uploading a 80MB folder of files to my iDisk and then working from that folder. The first step was to create a local copy of the iDisk. Assuming you have a MobileMe account (you can sign on for a free 60-day trial), open the MobileMe



pane in System Preferences. Open the iDisk tab and turn on iDisk Sync. This will add an iDisk icon to your Desktop and the Finder sidebar. If you select the iDisk icon in the sidebar you can see the progress of the synchronisation in the Finder's status bar. My initial sync took over an hour.

Once that's done, you can work from the data in the local copy of the iDisk. You can then either manually sync the local and online copies of the folders by clicking the small icon adjacent to the iDisk icon in the Finder's sidebar or right-clicking the iDisk icon on the desktop and choosing Sync from the menu.

Apple's iDisk solution works but I found it quite slow, even on a cable internet connection rated in excess of 10Mbps. In other words, if you're travelling to places where your internet connectivity might be limited, Apple's iDisk may not be the best solution for you.

**Use your web site.** If you've got your own web site then it's highly likely that you also have access to stacks of online storage. If you're happy to do things in a more primitive way then you can use the tried and trusted FTP. It works in the same way as a file-share on your local network except that it uses the internet.

Check with your web host that it provides FTP — almost all of them do. Log in to your site's administration system. If your site is managed by the IT department or an external service provider you may need them to do this part for you. Create a user account that has FTP access or have your own account changed to provide this





access. Creating an account with FTP access will then provide a folder that you can access over the internet using an FTP client such as CuteFTP, Cyberduck or Fetch. If your administrator has configured things correctly you'll be able to copy files back and forth to that folder.

This approach is less elegant than the iDisk method but is likely to cost you nothing extra over your current web hosting arrangements. Also, as all you're doing is manual copying of files back and forth, it'll be up to you to make sure you don't overwrite the wrong files. For some, the overhead of managing this yourself and potential for error may make MobileMe and iDisk — despite the slow performance — a safer arrangement.

**USB memory keys.** I remember buying my first flash memory device. It was a 4MB Compact Flash card and it cost about \$400 — on sale. Time has marched on and a trip to the local stationery shop will find 2GB and 4GB memory sticks being sold on impulse sales stands at the checkout. It's not hard to find 2GB of storage for \$20 these days. While lower prices are good for consumers there is a slight downside: lower prices and margins can drive down quality.

If you're shopping around for a memory key, I suggest that you adhere to some safe shopping principles:

Only buy from reputable dealers. Be sure you'll be able to get a refund if there's a problem. A quick scan of eBay reveals thousands of memory sticks at bargain prices. However, getting a refund if there's a problem can be tricky with overseas sellers. Given that prices are so low now, you're not likely to make a huge saving buying from overseas in any case.

Buy reputable brands. With flash memory so cheap many small manufacturers are playing the memory game. However, not all are playing fairly. Some fly-by-nighters are offering a large capacity units that don't deliver on the stated capacity. For example, you might be buying an 8GB stick but when it arrives or you try it out it's only got a few MBs of capacity.

Play close attention to packaging. Many of the cheaper memory sticks on the market look a lot like the more well-known brands. Sandisk, in particular, is targeted as for a long time it used a standard colour scheme on its packaging and products. That made it easy for cheaper brands to make their products look like Sandisk's. Trying to come up with a representative pool of test products







for memory sticks is tricky as there are so many to choose from. I decided to test three out just to see if cost matters. The three were a Lexar JumpDrive Secure II Plus, a Sandisk Ducati and a Sandisk Cruzer Micro. My test was a simple file copy test: I formatted each drive using OS X's Disk Utility and copied a 350MB file to the drive. I then copied the file back to my hard drive. This way I could test the read and write performance of each unit.

Neither the Lexar or Sandisk Cruzer are premium products. Both sit at the entry level of the market. However, both are commonly found at the checkout stands of stationery stores and newsagents. Copying my 350MB file to the Lexar and Sandisk Cruzer revealed very little performance difference with the Lexar writing the file in 1:25 and the Cruzer coming in just two seconds faster. The Sandisk Ducati absolutely poleaxed the others in the write test. It was able to receive the file in just 24.5 seconds – almost five times faster.

Reading the same file from the three drives revealed similar results, with the Lexar and Cruzer allowing me to copy the 350MB file back to my Mac in 20.5 seconds and 22.7 seconds respectively. The Ducati performed the same operation in about 8 seconds.

So, what's this tell us? If performance is a critical factor for you then the high-end units that are rated for faster performance might be more suitable. If you're only looking for a memory stick to use for backups and an extra minute or two per day isn't material to you then a slower, cheaper unit will probably suffice.

**Portable hard drives.** When you need serious storage capacity, a memory stick simply won't cut the mustard. That's when you'll need to look at external hard drive solutions.

External drive units can be connected to computers either by FireWire 400, FireWire 800, USB 2 or eSATA. Firewire 400 and USB 2 are supported by most of the Macs in common usage these days although older systems may only support the older USB 1. If you're in that boat, you'll find that moving data between your computer and an external drive will be very slow. More

recent Macs sport Firewire 800 connectors but eSATA connections will require an adaptor as there's no inbuilt support for eSATA on any current Macs.

Most external hard drives come in one of two sizes. Smaller units use 2.5" hard drives. These are the very same drives that are used in the majority of notebook computers. Units based on 2.5" drives typically don't need an external power supply as they're able to draw enough current to operate from either a USB or FireWire port. This makes them great for travellers that need to carry plenty of storage but don't have room for lots of extra cables or power bricks. Capacities currently max out around the 320GB mark, but 500GB devices (such as the Mercury On-The-Go recently reviewed online – see "Hotlinks") have started to hit the market.

Larger external hard drives use 3.5" hard disks. These are the same as the ones used in desktop computers. As well being larger they require more current so they need a dedicated power supply, making them less portable. However, they also deliver greater storage capacities. 1TB units are common, 1.5TB is coming soon, and they are far cheaper on a cents per GB basis.

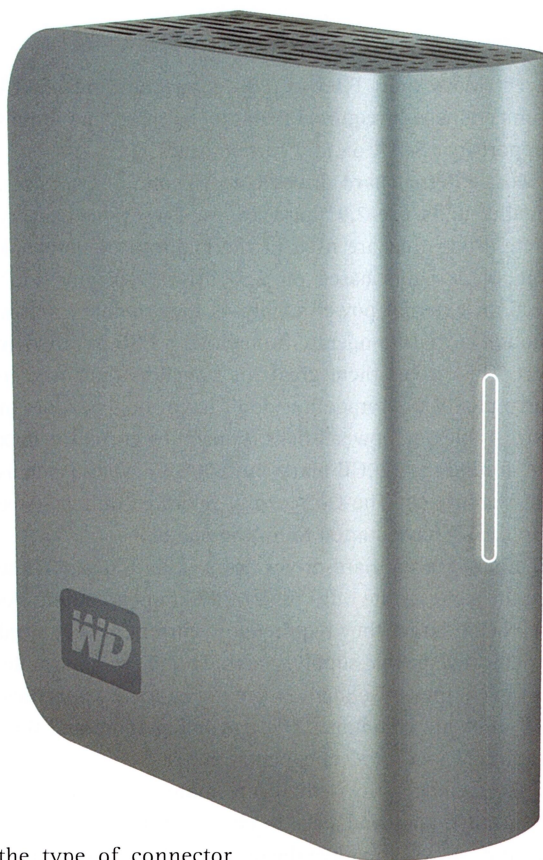
Like memory sticks, there are many different models or all shapes and sizes to choose from. Unlike with memory sticks, you have the option to build an external drive yourself, so you know exactly what's gone into it.

Shopping around, you should be able to find a 320GB 2.5" SATA hard drive for about \$140.

SATA refers to







the type of connector used to connect the drive to a computer. SATA is a fairly recent standard so I'd suggest using that. External cases can cost as little as \$10 at swap meets but shop around and look for one that feels solid and looks good. Also, if you upgrade your portable Mac with a larger hard drive, you can use the old hard drive as an external disk.

Start by clearing a workspace that's free from clutter. Depending on the type of enclosure you've chosen you may need a set of small screwdrivers but that's the extent of the required toolkit. Carefully remove the drive from the antistatic packaging and make sure that there are no signs of physical damage.

Check the instructions for the enclosure to work out how to open it. Open the enclosure and take the time to look at the connectors and the parts. It won't be especially complex but it's worth looking before you start so that the various bits and pieces are familiar.

Open the enclosure and plug the drive carefully into its connector. For a 2.5" drive, you'll probably only need to connect the drive to its connector and close things up. With a 3.5" drive, you may also need to connect a power connector. The good news is that it's impossible to plug things into the wrong sockets as everything only plugs in one way.

**Off the shelf.** If you prefer buying off the shelf units rather than rolling your own there are a few brands worth looking at.

Iomega has been a long-time player in the portable storage market. Its Zip drives delivered what was, at the time, a massive 100MB. Times have changed and Iomega now plays in the hard disk game with a variety of different options.

In the 2.5" range there's the eGo range. They certainly look good and seem quite robust. Iomega's desktop hard drive range, using 3.5" disks, offers capacities ranging from 360GB to 1.5TB. They come in a variety of form factors including the MiniMax units that are designed to complement a Mac Mini.

Seagate's a famous name in the storage business, mainly for internal drive units, but more recently for external, portable drives as well. Its FreeAgent range comes with 2.5" or 3.5" drive options depending on your needs. Connection options to your Mac include USB 2 and FireWire. There are eSATA interfaces as well but you'll either need an add-on card for your Mac or an adaptor.

CalDigit may not be well known in the consumer space but if you're after a high-performance, high-reliability solution then you'll want it on your shopping list. To be sure, they're not the cheapest units around but they are designed specifically for creative folk who need to be able to edit video and large images from an external drive.

Western Digital is another stalwart in the storage game, recently making a big push into the external drive space like Seagate. The MyBook range is based on 3.5" drives and is designed for desktop usage. One of the neat features is that these units don't actually look like desktop hard drives. They're about the same size and shape as a hard cover novel so they're quite discrete. The Western Digital My Passport range is for mobile users and use 2.5" drives.

Another name you'll know — but not for hard drives — is Verbatim. The manufacturer of removable media from audio tapes to floppy disks to USB keys to DVDs has recently entered the market for fixed-media storage with its affordable SmartBox range of 2.5" and 3.5" drives in capacities from 120GB to 1TB. Verbatim is a well-established brand and now covers pretty much the full spectrum of portable storage solutions.

And not to be outdone, professional solutions provider LaCie provides compact hard disk enclosures for a range of mobile needs, from huge capacity with the Little Big Disk Quadra at 1TB, to the Rugged Hard Disk with its tough rubber enclosure for those who expect their data to sustain a bump or two on the road.

**The last word.** All in all, regardless of your specific portable data requirements, you're likely to find a solution to suit your needs. Whichever way you go, there's no longer a reason to be more than a few clicks away from all your important data. ☞



# I/O for the Mac

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# Macs in the first person

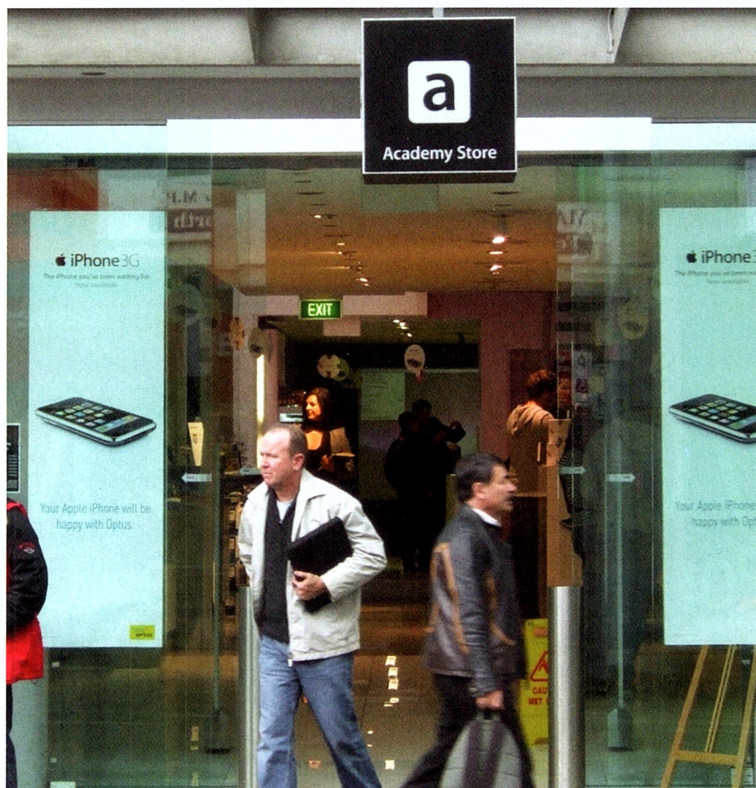
Amid all the dust kicked up during the iPhone stampede in early July, one up-and-coming Apple reseller quietly went about its business — lassoing its top-choice telco partner and securing unit availability. That reseller was Melbourne-headquartered retailer My Mac Australia.

My Mac Australia didn't open at midnight to sell its first iPhones, shunning the opportunity to participate in a manufactured media event guaranteed to whip up hype and disappoint the over-excited punters queuing outside stores across Australia. Its stores in Melbourne and Sydney opened at 9:00am and 9:30am respectively just like on a normal day.

It's not that My Mac Australia and its staff weren't excited about the iPhone. The bigger stores did have lines that day and the weekend immediately after the launch were the biggest in My Mac's history. In fact, founder and director Steve Bardel has given the little handheld a glowing report, enthusing about its addictive potential.

"I managed to get myself one. The intuitiveness is amazing, even for an old timer like me. I believe this product will be amazing for the market," he said. "I've always been a Nokia person for ease-of-use but this is great, and the applications are awesome. There's nothing I don't like about it."

Bardel said he got his iPhone hooked up to the internet via his home AirPort within 20-25 minutes of trying, after never having played with one before. "It only took me so long as I could not remember the pass-



word to my AirPort Network. Since then, it's a one-minute thing now joining networks if it's Wi-Fi or you know the password," he said.

"My wife, she keeps going 'put it down, put it down'."

My Mac Australia did its calculations and partnered Optus — since lauded by various commentators for the plans it is offering in the meleé — and has arranged to have a certain number of iPhones delivered by the vendor every month to keep sales flowing.

My Mac has also been advertising to build a strong team of people with a telecommunications or phone shop background to support its move towards things iPhone.

"Our partner is Optus; we're really lucky there. At the time we were a bit unsure that they were making the right decision," Bardel said. "But they delivered 40 iPhones to each of my stores for the first week, so we managed to have 80 on the launch date. I heard some resellers only had four or five iPhones."

The iPhone/Optus partnership is not the only major My Mac move this year.

Bardel's outfit expanded in Sydney by snapping up the assets of Ben Morgan's signature Academy Store in Bondi Junction's Bronte Road earlier this year, swooping on the troubled operation not long after news broke in April of its \$1.1 million debt, Apple reseller status cancellation and subsequent takeover by liquidators.

"Until now, retail has been the main focus of what we have been doing. But with Apple becoming its own

## Hotlinks

[www.mymac.com.au](http://www.mymac.com.au)

My Mac Australia site — coming soon

[www.forbes.com/equities/2008/07/14/apple-iphone-closer-markets-equity-cx\\_mp\\_0714markets36.html](http://www.forbes.com/equities/2008/07/14/apple-iphone-closer-markets-equity-cx_mp_0714markets36.html)

Forbes.com on first weekend of iPhone 3G sales



retail business, we want to diversify," Bardel said. "In Melbourne, we were 90 per cent retail."

In Melbourne, the Apple Premium Reseller quotes, diagnoses, orders and repairs from its service facility two doors down from its Flinders Street store. Third-party products in the showroom include the likes of Microsoft Office:mac 2008, DLO cases for iPods, Bose sound docks and Western Digital My Book storage.

Training operations are being re-structured in line with the opportunity represented by the Sydney Academy Store buyout.

Academy Store's experience and resources in training are expected to help lever My Mac into a stronger, more broad-based position. Bardel plans to bring in more photographic and film people to assist, although he has kept on as many Academy Store staff as possible through the change of ownership.

"Some [staff there] had already resigned," he said.

Bondi Junction is in Sydney's eastern suburbs, about 20 minutes from the CBD, where Apple has just opened its Sydney store. Bardel believes that everyone will go into the Apple store to have a look — but they won't necessarily open their wallets or keep opening them at that store.

In other words, he believes there'll still be opportunities for good local Apple resellers. "It's a good location at Bondi Junction. We were looking at the demographics of the clientele and they seem to prefer to shop locally as well," Bardel said.

Bardel is keeping Academy Store's customer rewards program, the Academy Card, with the aim of maintaining as much continuity as possible.

My Mac Australia is also looking to re-focus on the education market as part of its diversification program. Until about two years ago, the reseller had a strong education focus but that had stopped. "We then no longer had the resources to support the education market. We are now putting those

resources back in place," Bardel said. "That includes the right salespeople to target our education clients, and the right expertise."

Apple had also changed its education market requirements for its resellers.

The business or corporate market isn't that different from the education sector qualitatively — it's about having sufficient resources to dedicate to both sets of customers, said Bardel. "We've been growing 35 per cent most years so we can throw resources at it now," he added.

**History.** My Mac Australia was founded some nine years ago in Melbourne by Bardel. "Back at that time, the iMac was just coming out and it looked like a real opportunity. I just took that opportunity and I ran with it," he said.

Today, its flagship store is on Flinders Street, near Federation Square — a CBD location Bardel proudly claims as having the most pedestrian traffic in the city.

Bardel was in the photographic industry at the time, involved with digital photo studios offering top-notch printing services, supporting Agfa Anova and the like.

He couldn't get the name My Mac as it was owned by another business, so My Mac Australia it had to be. "I've now managed to buy the internet domain [www.mymac.com.au](http://www.mymac.com.au) and we're relaunching our web site under that name," Bardel added.

"We've been waiting for years and years, and the guy I think must have stopped operating his business, because we [finally] saw that the domain was parked and made an offer."

In the past, My Mac marketed itself via print advertising, billboards and radio but mainly relies on Google and word-of-mouth. Bardel also wants to keep his private life out of the media.

"I don't want to talk about myself, if you don't mind. I'd prefer to keep this about My Mac Australia," he said.

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# iPhone 3G SOFTWARE

The iPhone 3G is about much more than just its cool hardware. Under the plastic there's some sophisticated computing going on, including an entirely updated operating system and – for the first time – access to third-party applications. As this is also of interest to users of the iPod touch, we thought we'd take a look.

The original iPhone was an amazingly capable device, but it certainly wasn't perfect. The 2.0 software update, a major improvement over the original iPhone operating system, adds dozens of new features and refines several old ones – changes many users have been waiting for since the iPhone's introduction. Read on, and you may thank Apple for holding off on releasing the iPhone in Australia until 2.0 was ready.

**The App Store.** The iPhone 2.0 software adds only one new application, but it's a gateway to an entirely new world. The App Store lets you download and install

applications created by third-party developers (some programs for free, others at a cost).

You can add or remove applications as you see fit, but because they store all their data along with the software, deleting an application also deletes all its settings and stored information. If you delete a program and want it back, you can download it again for free, unlike media from the iTunes Store. You can also load applications associated with your iTunes account onto as many iPod touches and iPhones as you want, provided they're synced with your iTunes library. Even though most of the applications are small, if you have many of them installed, syncing with your computer will take much longer than before.

**Mail.** Managing e-mail on the iPhone is easier than ever. You can now delete or move multiple messages at once and specify backup SMTP servers for each of your accounts. In addition, the Mail application dis-



plays a number of new fields when you compose a message. You can now edit the blind carbon copy field and choose which of your e-mail accounts to use when sending a message.

Apple has also added better support for attachments – you can now view PowerPoint presentations and iWork documents and play back certain types of audio and video files. You can also save images (but not other files) sent to you as attachments.

Unfortunately, iPhone 2.0's version of Mail still lacks a couple of features that first-generation iPhone and iPod touch users have been clamouring for – in particular, a unified inbox and the ability to view and compose messages in landscape mode.

**Enterprise support.** Many iPhone users were disappointed that the device was virtually useless in a corporate environment. The software update brings with it many enterprise features, including full support for Microsoft Exchange and its ActiveSync technology, which allows contacts, calendar, and mail information to be wirelessly “pushed” to the iPhone, automatically updating the device whenever that data changes on the server.

Once we set up accounts, we were able to access an Exchange e-mail account as well as retrieve contact and calendar information from the server. We were able to respond to Exchange event invitations attached to e-mail messages, something you can't do with iCal invitations on an iPhone. Unfortunately, if you sync contacts and calendars with Exchange, you can't also sync them with your Mac. To sync both at once, you'll need to use Apple's MobileMe service.

**MobileMe.** If you don't work for a big corporation but want to share all your messages, contacts, and calendar information between all your computing devices, Apple's MobileMe supports wireless syncing of contacts, calendars, and mail. Unfortunately, there's still no way of syncing information from the iPhone Notes application with your Mac.

**Location services.** The iPhone 3G may have true GPS, but iPhone 2.0 software brings its own refinements to the iPhone's location services. Using the location information it gleans from GPS, WiFi signals, and mobile phone towers, the iPhone's Maps application has added an entirely new feature: tracking. When you press the locate button in the lower left corner, Maps will continue to track your location until you press the button again. This feature works best with GPS capabilities, which provide close to real-time location information. But you can also use it without GPS, as on an iPod touch – the results will just be less precise and will update less frequently.

iPhone 2.0
iPhone firmware
★★★★
Access to third-party applications; robust enterprise support; push synchronisation for MobileMe users; bulk e-mail management; better e-mail attachment support; expanded international language support.
Certain features are still lacking: no built-in support for task management; no support for iCal event invitations; no syncing with Notes app; some instability issues.
iPhone 3G, iPod touch
Free for iPhone users, \$12.99 for iPod touch users
Apple
Download via iTunes

Type
Rating
Pros
Cons
Platform
RRP
Publisher
Distributor

**Wireless options.** Earlier iPhone software gave you the option of either disabling Bluetooth or Wi-Fi individually, or shutting off all the iPhone's radios by switching to Airplane Mode. iPhone 2.0 refines that a bit: now when you enter Airplane Mode, you can turn WiFi back on without activating the mobile phone features. That way, if you're on a flight that provides WiFi access (coming soon, we're told), you can still get on the internet without interfering with the aircraft's instruments or using up your battery so quickly.

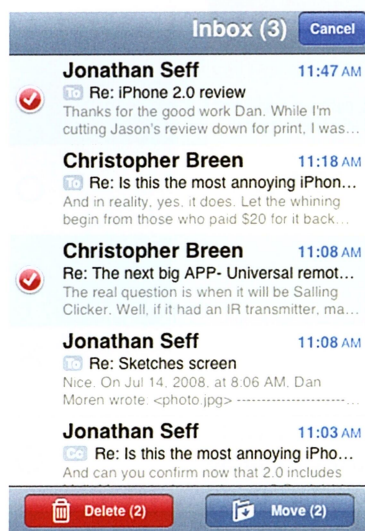
**The little things.** In addition to these major changes, iPhone 2.0 is rife with small but welcome improvements.

For example, when you're entering a password, the field shows you the last typed character in plain text, making it easier to figure out when you've pressed the wrong key.

The iPhone lets you manage multiple calendars, colour-coding them so you can easily tell them apart (although the colours don't necessarily sync from iCal). You can set a default calendar for events created on the iPhone, and







**Bulk move and delete.** The Mail application's time-saving bulk editing feature is great news for people who make heavy use of e-mail.

you can browse different calendars. However, the Calendar still does not let you manage to-do lists or sync them between the iPhone and iCal or Mail.


And there are more goodies. You can take screenshots of your iPhone's interface and search your contacts. International support has expanded dramatically – the iPhone now speaks 16 different languages. And if you press and hold on the keyboard's .com key, it will pop up options for the other common top-level domains: .edu, .org, and .net (this also works when the .com button doesn't appear on the keyboard but the @ key does – for instance,

when you're addressing e-mails; in that case, you tap and hold the period key to get the options).

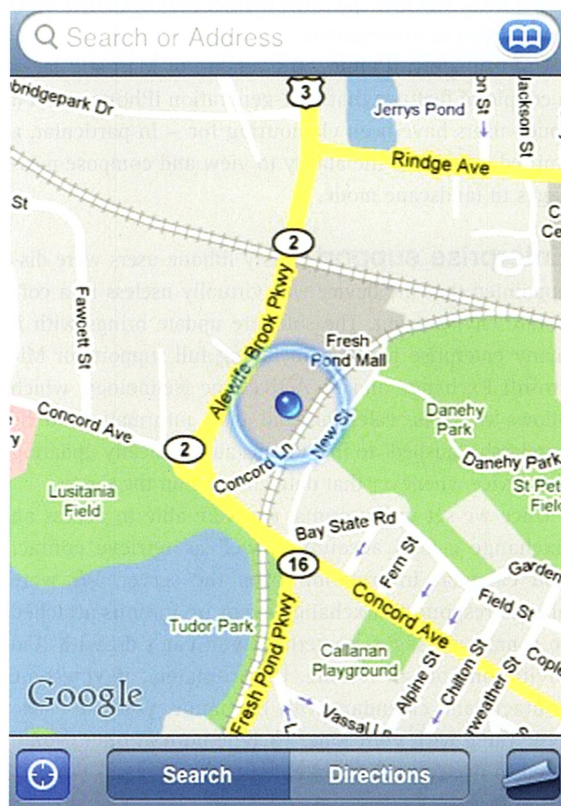
A few pieces are missing from this update – most notably the ability to cut, copy, and paste text between different applications. And too few programs support horizontal orientation, a sad omission since many people prefer to type on the wider keyboard it provides.

## Australian Macworld's buying advice.

The iPhone 2.0 software is full of the refinements you'd expect from a second-generation Apple product. The iPhone OS still isn't perfect, and we wish Apple had addressed some lingering shortcomings, but it's a welcome step up for what was already arguably the best mobile platform on the market.

Support for third-party applications and the ease of distribution via the App Store mean that many of those gaps will likely be filled – eventually. 

**Find your location.** Location tracking works best with the iPhone 3G's GPS, but it's also available to users of the iPod touch and the original iPhone.



## Should I upgrade my iPod touch software?

Yes, it's worth \$12.99. To begin with, the 2.0 software includes all of the applications in the January touch update — Google Maps, Mail, Weather, Web Clips, Stocks, and Notes — for half the price. It supports push e-mail, contacts, and calendars with Microsoft Exchange or MobileMe, searchable contacts, multiple calendars, support for viewing more types of e-mail attachments, the ability to move or delete multiple e-mail messages at once, parental controls, the ability to take a screenshot of the iPod's interface, and much more. Then there's the App Store. The vast majority of these programs will work splendidly with the iPod

touch. And Apple's free Remote application is worth the upgrade price by itself. — Christopher Breen

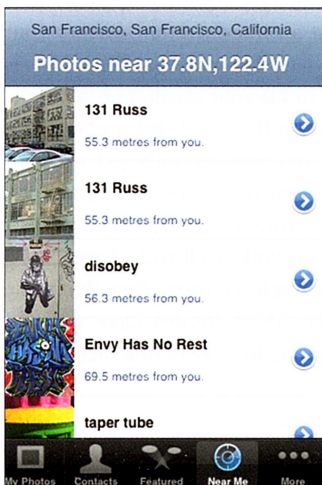




# iPhone APPS

*The App Store gives iPhone and iPod touch users access to hundreds of applications*

The App Store – accessible via iTunes or from an iPhone or iPod touch running the 2.0 software – kicked open its doors with more than 500 applications. We'll be reviewing scads of them online and in the magazine, but here's a taste of some of the cool software you can now download and install on your iPhone, iPhone 3G, or iPod touch.



## Exposure.

Looking for an easy way to show off your Flickr photos? How about explore the latest snapshots from your friends and the larger Flickr community? Then Connected Flow's Exposure belongs on your iPhone or iPod touch. The main page displays your personal photos as a list, while buttons along the bottom of the screen let you explore photos from your contacts or from the Flickr community. But perhaps the most intriguing option is the Near Me feature. Tap on this button and Exposure will use your current location to find images tagged with nearby longitude and latitude coordinates – in my case, an image of the graffiti-strewn garage door across the street from my home (and many more). — *Kelly Turner*

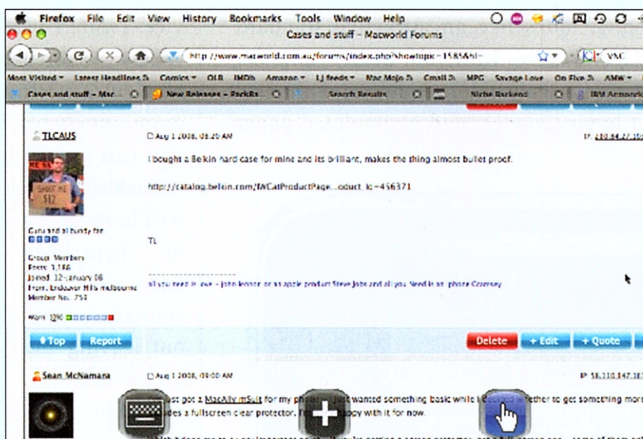


## Texas Hold'em.

There are already quite a few iPhone poker games (and I expect many more in the coming weeks and months), but Apple's own Texas Hold'em is going to be hard to top. It lets you play the popular poker game against computerised opponents (just like the iPod version of the game) or match up with as many as eight friends over a Wi-Fi network (I see the AMW contributors' productivity dropping a bit in the near future). By rotating your iPhone or iPod touch, you can switch between first-person and top-down views. The graphics are stunning (which explains the huge 128MB download size), and little touches like original iMac posters on the walls behind players make it a game worth going "all in" for. — *Jonathan Seff*

## MochaVNC.

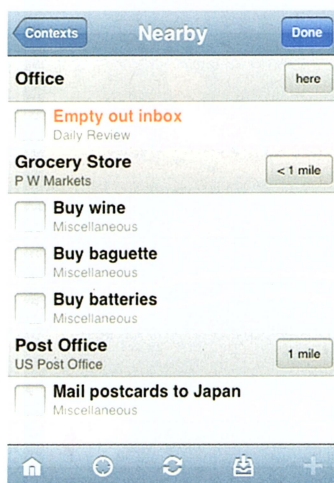
Virtual Network Computing is essentially a system for controlling one computer from another – think Back To My Mac if you're a Leopard user. MochaVNC is Back To My Mac for iPhone, but a whole bunch more complicated. If you're a bit tech-savvy you can set up MochaVNC to use the built-in VNC client in your Mac and control it from wherever you are. Works best over WiFi, but you can configure it for use outside your home network. If you need to do something that requires more grunt than your iPhone provides, MochaVNC is a very inexpensive (read "free") way to do it. There's also a paid version for \$7.99 that adds the ability to use function keys. — *Matthew JC. Powell*





## Band

Demonstrated to enthusiastic applause at this year's WWDC, MooCowMusic's Band is a collection of virtual instruments that let you "play" music via the iPhone's touch screen, including a rock drum kit with on-screen pads, Funky Drummer, a bass guitar, a piano, and a 12-bar blues electric guitar. You can record, overdub, and mix together all of the instruments in Band to create a final track. The application includes audience cheers to make you feel like a real rock star, and provides visual feedback – for example, when you pluck one of the bass strings, it vibrates on screen. — *Jim Dalrymple*



## OmniFocus.

You've got a task manager on your Mac for staying on top of various to-dos. But when you're out and about, how are you supposed to keep up with your tasks – or add new ones? The Omni Group thinks it has solved that problem with OmniFocus for the iPhone, a mobile version of its task manager based on the principles of David Allen's Getting Things Done (GTD). OmniFocus lets you add, organise, and mark off to-dos on your phone; its ability to sync wirelessly with any WebDAV server keeps the desktop and iPhone versions of OmniFocus up-to-date. More impressively, it taps into the iPhone's ability to pinpoint your location, letting you create lists based on what's nearby (say, finding appropriate shops for your errands). — *Jim Dalrymple*

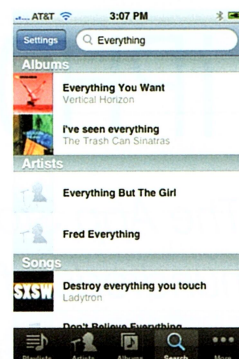
## PCalc.

TLA Systems' PCalc for iPhone transforms your iPhone or iPod touch into the coolest scientific calculator ever. In vertical orientation, it looks like an attractive standard calculator, albeit one with conversions, constants, and more. Turn your device horizontally, though, and PCalc becomes a powerful scientific calculator, complete with RPN (Reverse Polish Notation) mode; hex, octal, and binary modes; and a simulated paper tape. — *Jason Snell*



## Remote.

It's no surprise that Apple's Remote application headed up the App Store's list of Top Free Apps immediately after its launch. It turns the touch screen on your iPhone or iPod touch into the best remote control I've yet seen for controlling an Apple TV or an iTunes library on your local WiFi network. Using an interface that mirrors your iPhone's own iPod application, Remote gives you access to all your media and playlists, and it adds a nifty search feature: tap in a few letters and you instantly get a list of all content – artist names, tracks, movies, and so on – containing the search phrase. While Remote works well with iTunes, it's a godsend for Apple TV users. Note that some users on the AMW forums have reported problems getting Remote to find their iTunes libraries. — *Dan Frakes*



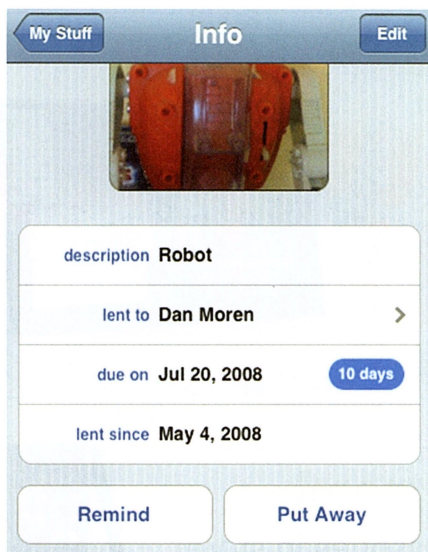
## Twitterrific.

The iPhone version of The Iconfactory's client for the Twitter messaging service, Twitterrific, lets you post and read tweets – short messages like miniature blog entries – from anywhere. The program integrates with twitpic.com, so you can upload a photo with the URL embedded in your tweet. An integrated web browser lets you tap on user names or hyperlinks and view the contents without leaving the program. It's available in two versions: a free one that periodically displays ads, and a \$12.99 Twitterrific Premium.

— *Jason Snell*







## Circulator.

Why waste precious brain matter trying to keep track of who has borrowed your stuff when you've got a phone that can handle it for you? That's the concept behind Circulator from TheCodingMonkeys. The app lists what you've borrowed – books, DVDs, even money – and what you've lent out, including the day the loan started and the due date of the item in question. You can even send SMS or e-mail reminders to your friends. — *Jason Snell*



## AIM.

Filling a notable gap in the original iPhone functionality, AOL's free AIM client is pleasantly straightforward: log in with your AIM, .Mac, or MobileMe account information, and you can chat with other such users much faster than via SMS or e-mail. It may not be as robust as desktop software, but it's a great addition. A future version will add the ability to be notified when someone wants to chat with you even when you're not running the app. — *Dan Moren*

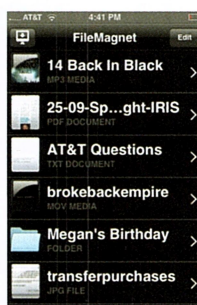
## Sketches.

If your pals won't put up with your scrawling big black ink mustaches on their faces, you can settle for the virtual equivalent with LateNiteSoft's Sketches, which lets you draw all over your iPhone, even on pictures that you import from your camera or iPhone photo albums. You can use a variety of different colours and line thicknesses while drawing, insert geometric shapes and clip art, and even add a picture from the web or a map of your current location (handy for giving directions). When you're done, send your masterpieces to an iPhone photo album or post them online. — *Dan Moren*



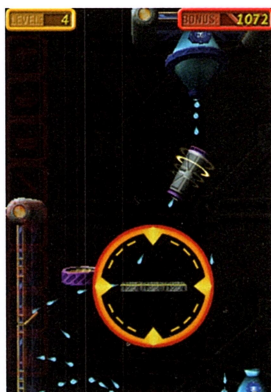
## FileMagnet.

The iPhone excels at media playback and portable communication, but it's not very good as a file storage device. Magnetism Studio's FileMagnet is a clever solution that lets you load files onto your phone or iPod touch and view them there, all without having to resort to e-mail workarounds or physical connections between your phone and computer. All you need is a WiFi network that both your Mac and your iPhone can log on to. Launch the software on your iPhone, connect to the uploader client on your Mac, and start transferring files. FileMagnet currently supports a number of common formats for documents, images, audio, and movies, and more are on the way. The developer also promises the ability to attach documents to e-mail messages in a future version. — *Dan Moren*



## NYTimes.

Perhaps the New York Times can finally shake off its dated Grey Lady moniker, thanks to the free NYTimes application for the iPhone. This attractive piece of software offers up to seven days of Times content. You can read stories in either portrait or landscape mode, and it even offers a search function to help you find stories. — *Rob Griffiths*



## Enigma.

Not many applications win awards before they come out, but Enigma from Pangea Software can make that claim. The iPhone version of the classic Mac game took home an Apple Design Award at this past June's WWDC, and when you see its gorgeous graphics on the iPhone's screen, you'll understand why. The 3D puzzle game requires that you direct a flow of liquid from point A to point B through a series of bumpers, sliders, and other objects and obstacles as you try to complete each of the 50 levels. Enigma makes the most of the iPhone's Multitouch interface. — *Philip Michaels*



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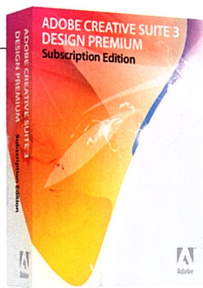
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<b>Malvern</b>	1420 High Street	t: 03 9508 2600
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# Mac SOHO networks

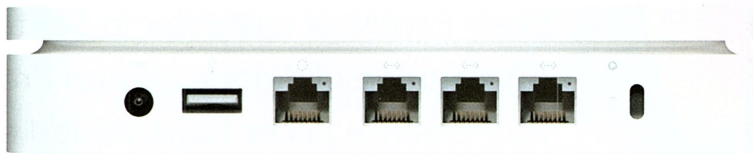
As I write this the entire world seems to be in a constant state of turmoil over the iPhone 3G. This raises two points.

The first is a big thank you to all the people who bought either the first iPhone or an iPod Touch and to all the hackers who unlocked them and wrote apps for unlocked phones. You were the pioneers who made this great (but not yet perfect) device possible.

My second point is a little advice. If you haven't already bought an iPhone, wait. With three networks and multiple vendors in the market I'm anticipating some fairly good improvements in the deals between now and the end of the year. Wait with me and see what you can get in a few months — particularly if you have a contract running out soon with a network you've stuck with for a while. This goes double for those, like me, outside the largest cities where we are stuck with Telstra and its terrible data pricing to get real 3G net speeds.

On to other matters. Recently Australian Macworld received an e-mail asking about SOHO networking, domain names and hosting so I'm going to cover these topics over the next few columns. This month: ISPs, services and hosting.

Connecting your small office or home office to the net is a minefield of difficult decisions. The first thing you need to do is discover exactly what speeds of ADSL are being offered from your exchange and by whom. A quick visit to Whirlpool (see "Hotlinks") will discover this for you. Next you want to decide what network services you want to run across the connection, giving you an idea of the speed you will need. VoIP requires



more than just plain data transfers and video chat more than VoIP. You may want to run other things such as a VPN link to your home, another small office or a client.

This brings me to hosting your web site and/or mail server on your own network. This may seem appealing but my advice can be summed up in one word — don't. Hosting externally for small sites is so inexpensive and offers far better uptimes, backups and redundancies than you can possibly afford for a home network. All hosting services also offer easy upgrade paths as your needs grow.

VoIP is the other most frequently-mentioned service. This can be extremely attractive for some small business and homes. You get cheaper calls to a lot of locations; some vendors will allow you a dial-in number in more than one capital city.

If you are a business on the fringe of a capital city you get a phone number with local call rates in and out to the capital city — perfect, for example, if you have a SOHO in the Blue Mountains and a customer base in Sydney. If you use the phone a lot get out your old phone bills and a calculator and do the maths.

One thing: some companies are now offering "naked internet" where you have an ADSL (or better) net connection and no landline phone. I wouldn't recommend this for any business that relies on the phone — the service guarantees for a business landline are so much better than ADSL. Of course, if you are a sole trader using a mobile phone almost

entirely, you might consider this with the addition of VoIP.

Once you know what you want and who offers services have a close look at the forums on Whirlpool — there are a lot of people discussing the various ISPs and their offerings.

Once you've decided on an ISP, you need to consider the hardware you will be using to connect. There are several bits required. First, you will need a modem, then a router, then a TCP/IP switch. To this you might want to add a VoIP router and a wireless access point.

Well, the good news is the first bunch of tools can be folded into the one inexpensive piece of hardware. Combined broadband modem/router/switches can be had for less than \$150 so go and buy two identical ones (a spare is a good idea when you have a single point of failure). Just remember to test and configure both units when you are setting up. Most of these units are set up by pointing a web browser at them so I also save all the required configuration pages. The easiest way is to just print the web page to a PDF.

You can also get a single unit that offers all this, and wireless. I avoid them for two reasons: Apple's AirPort Express offering is just so nice with easy set up and spanning on a Mac; and until we have a firm 802.11n standard and a lot of modem/-routers shipping with n I prefer to use Apple's wireless gear as I know it will work with my Mac.

Next month I'll take a closer look at VoIP services. ☞



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by Richard Thalheimer

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Hours of use may vary, depends upon many factors, including type of use, network, and connection speed. \*Estimate of "double the juice" is based on charging iPhone when its battery shows red. iPod is a trademark of Apple Inc., registered in the U.S. and other countries. iPhone is a trademark of Apple Inc.

## Reviewers give it top marks.

"So does the RichardSolo Battery (made by Sharper Image founder Richard Thalheimer) make for an easy-to-use, no-nonsense backup battery?...Yes! This thing is great. It's that good."

— **CrunchGear**

"Do you often find yourself in the middle of the day with your iPhone battery in the red? If so, I might have the perfect product for you... I found out how amazing this product was."

— **iPhone24x7**

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— **CNET**

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— **BuyMeAniPhone.com**

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## Hotlinks

[hetima.com/safari/stand-e.html](http://hetima.com/safari/stand-e.html)

SafariStand

[www.stclairsoft.com/HistoryHound/index.html](http://www.stclairsoft.com/HistoryHound/index.html)

HistoryHound

[desktop.google.com/mac/](http://desktop.google.com/mac/)

Google Desktop

[www.barebones.com/products/Yojimbo/](http://www.barebones.com/products/Yojimbo/)

Yojimbo

[www.devon-technologies.com](http://www.devon-technologies.com)

DevonThink

[www.evernote.com](http://www.evernote.com)

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[sheepsystems.com/products/bookdog/](http://sheepsystems.com/products/bookdog/)

Bookdog

[tinyurl.com/GoogleBookmarks](http://tinyurl.com/GoogleBookmarks)

Google Bookmarks

[www.url-manager.com/](http://www.url-manager.com/)

URL Manager Pro

[allbrowserbookmarks.com](http://allbrowserbookmarks.com)

AllBookmarks

[addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/2410](http://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/2410)

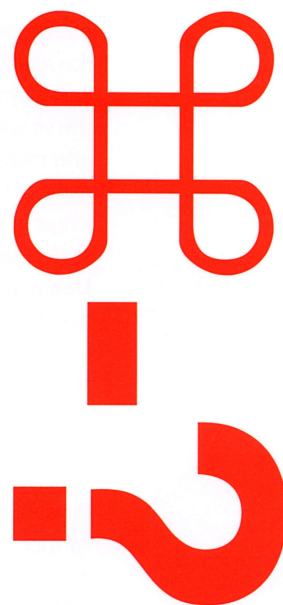
Firefox Bookmark Synchronizer

[www.inquisitorx.com/safari/](http://www.inquisitorx.com/safari/)

Inquisitor

[addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/59](http://addons.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/addon/59)

User Agent Switcher



# Browse the web better

Whether you're trying to keep track of a zillion tabs, navigate your bookmarks, or deal with a page that just won't load, the more you use your web browser, the more likely you are to run into problems. But with the help of hidden features and third-party add-ons, you can tackle these troubles and squeeze even more efficiency out of Apple's Safari 3 and Mozilla's Firefox 2 and 3.

## Keep tabs on your tabs.

Safari's and Firefox's tabbed browsing features let you open multiple sites within a single window, thereby reducing screen clutter. But some aspects of tabbed browsing are less obvious.

### Open tabs in the background.

Say you've just performed a Google search. You now have a results page, which probably includes tonnes of links you'd like to visit. You could simply click on a link to view that page in the current window, and then click on the Back button or the SnapBack icon in the Search field to return to the results. But an easier way is to  $\mathbb{C}$ -click on each link (in Safari or Firefox), which opens pages in new



back-ground tabs. You can continue navigating your search results in the foreground. (If the shortcut doesn't work in Safari, go to Safari: Preferences, click on Tabs, and select  $\mathbb{C}$ -Click Opens A Link In A New Tab.)

**Restore tabs automatically.** After hours of browsing, you often end up with several open windows, each with its own set of carefully culled tabs. Murphy's Law dictates that this is the moment your browser will crash. You

don't need to find all those pages again manually. In Firefox, choose Firefox: Preferences and click on Main; from the When Firefox Starts pop-up menu, choose Show My Windows And Tabs From Last Time. From now on, Firefox will keep track of all open tabs and windows, and restore them automatically when the browser restarts. (When restarting Firefox after a crash, click on the Restore Session button.)

Although Safari doesn't have an auto-restore feature, you can manually regain sites by selecting History: Reopen All Windows From Last Session. To restore sessions automatically, try Hetima Computer's free SafariStand 3 (see "Hotlinks"). Once you've installed it, choose Stand: SafariStand Setting. Under General, from the Restore Method At Launch pop-up menu, select Automatically Reopen Last Session (Safari). Note that the software uses an unofficial method to alter Safari's behaviour. It could stop working after an update to Safari or OS X.

## Find previously viewed

**pages.** How many times have you read something on the web and later





had no idea where to find that information again? Although browsers keep track of your history — a list of URLs you've visited recently — this doesn't offer much help if you don't know the name of the site or if the page is no longer in the history list. There are several ways to solve this problem.

**Use a search tool.** If you're running Mac OS X 10.5 (Leopard), you can easily search the contents of pages you've visited. That's because Spotlight indexes everything you look at in Safari, except when you've enabled private browsing (Safari: Private Browsing). Click on the Spotlight icon in the menu bar and enter your search term, and Spotlight will display a list of matches under Webpages. There's a catch: even though Spotlight knows the text that was on the page, it can't display that text if the page no longer exists. For that, you'll need a more powerful tool, such as St. Clair Software's HistoryHound 1.9.2 (see "Hotlinks").

If you haven't upgraded to Leopard, or you don't use Safari, check out Google's free Google Desktop (see "Hotlinks"). Like Spotlight, Google Desktop indexes the contents of pages you visit; also like Spotlight, it doesn't store pages, so you must go back to the original site once you've discovered a match. Unlike Spotlight, Google Desktop supports numerous browsers (including Firefox), and can even index messages

from your Gmail account, not to mention other files on your hard disk.

**Clip your content.** Although you can't beat the convenience of programs that automatically save and index your web pages, they can quickly overwhelm you with irrelevant information. For better control, consider a program like Bare Bones Software's Yojimbo 1.5 (see "Hotlinks") or Devon Technologies' DevonThink 2 (see "Hotlinks"). Both let you manually clip and store web pages — or portions of pages — in searchable databases.

An even more promising option is Evernote Corporation's free Evernote (see "Hotlinks"), a service that lets you clip information such as web pages, text snippets, and images, and access it through software on your Mac, a web browser, or a mobile device such as an iPhone. The service indexes all of the text in your clippings (even text that appears in photographs), so you can easily search for content from any device. Shortly before press time, the service had just announced its grand opening after several months of private beta testing.

### Keep bookmarks in sync.

If you have multiple bookmark lists strewn across different browsers — or even across several machines — it's time to rein in the chaos.

**Sync your bookmarks.** If you use several browsers, each with its own set of bookmarks, try merging



**Quick Safari searches.** With the help of Inquisitor, matches appear immediately when you type a few letters into Safari's search field.

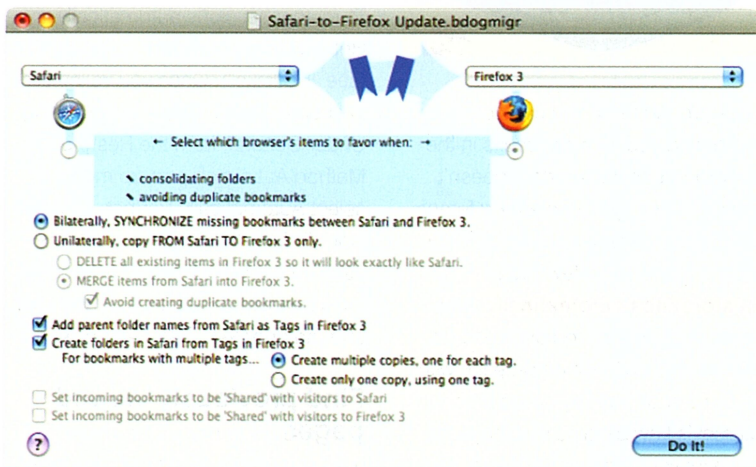
them with Sheep Systems' Bookdog 5.1 (see "Hotlinks"). The software can display, edit, verify, and sort bookmarks from multiple browsers, as well as copy or merge bookmarks between two different browsers (see the screenshot "Many browsers, one set of bookmarks"). It can also sync with Google Bookmarks (see "Hotlinks"), so you can use those bookmarks online.

**Make bookmarks universal.** If you prefer to access bookmarks from one place, consider a bookmark manager. Alco Blom's URL Manager Pro 3.5 (see "Hotlinks") stores bookmarks in its own database, providing a system-wide menu that allows you to select them from most browsers. Agile Web Solutions' free AllBookmarks 3 (see "Hotlinks") displays a menu-bar item containing all of your bookmarks from Safari and Firefox, as well as from Flock 1.0.3, Camino 1.5.5 and OmniWeb 5.6. Selecting a bookmark opens that page in your default web browser.

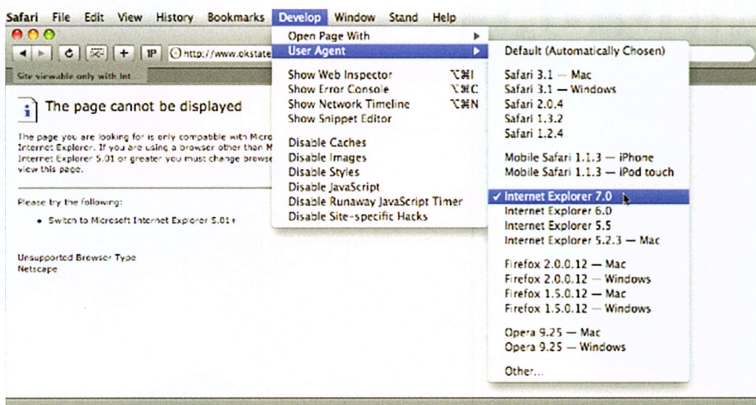
**Sync online.** In the past, you were able to use .Mac to sync Safari bookmarks between multiple Macs. But as we go to press, the transition from .Mac to MobileMe is still ongoing and bookmark syncing isn't working for some users.

Firefox users can download the Foxmarks Bookmark Synchronizer add-on (see "Hotlinks"), which provides online syncing capabilities — even across platforms.

**Many browsers, one set of bookmarks.** Bookdog offers numerous options for synchronising bookmarks between different browsers.







**Pose as another browser.** If browser incompatibility prevents a site from loading, try switching the user agent setting

## Use predictive searching.

In Firefox 2 or Safari, when you begin typing a URL into the location bar, the browser shows any matching URLs from your bookmark list or browsing history. This lets you navigate to one of the suggested links with the keyboard or mouse.

Firefox 3 takes this auto-completion feature to a new level. It recognises not only portions of URLs, but also words from the titles of web pages and tags that you've added to your bookmarks. (To append tags to bookmarks, choose Bookmarks: Bookmark This Page, or double-click on the blue star at the right side of the location bar. Enter keywords in the Tags field.) You can also type search terms directly into the location bar. Firefox performs a Google search and either brings up a results page or takes you straight to the top web page when it finds a clear match.

Although Safari lacks these sophisticated auto-completion features, you can enhance its search field using David Watanabe's Inquisitor 3 add-on (see "Hotlinks"). Inquisitor provides intelligent auto-completion — for example, type macw and it suggests macworld as a match. Enter lord of and Inquisitor suggests, among other matches, lord of the rings online. Inquisitor also displays pages that would appear in a search for those terms (see the screenshot "Quick Safari searches"). Type diskw, for instance,

and you'll see a list of sites about Al-soft's DiskWarrior utility. Use the arrow keys to jump directly to the result you want — all without having to display a page of Google search results.

## Improve site support.

Once in a while, you might encounter a site that refuses to display properly or that generates an error message telling you your browser's not supported. However, you can sometimes outsmart such sites by switching the user agent setting, a trick that lets one browser masquerade as another. For instance, a site that doesn't work in Safari might work if you change the setting to Firefox.

In Safari 3.1.1, you must first enable the normally hidden Develop menu. Choose Safari: Preferences, click on Advanced, and select the Show Develop Menu In Menu Bar option. If you encounter an unsupported site, select Develop: User Agent, and choose one of the browsers listed (see the screenshot "Pose as another browser"). Then, in the same tab, re-enter the URL you originally tried to visit. If you use Firefox, download the free User Agent Switcher add-on (see "Hotlinks"). This appends the User Agent Switcher submenu to the Tools menu; from here you can select a different browser.

Unfortunately, this trick doesn't always work, since some sites rely on features built into Windows, such as ActiveX controls or a PC-only plug-in. ☹

## Hotlinks

[www.nightproductions.net/prefsetter.html](http://www.nightproductions.net/prefsetter.html)  
Pref Setter

## Get Selective about Recent Items

Mac OS X gives you a convenient way to return quickly to programs and files you've recently used. Just choose Recent Items from the Apple menu.



If this list starts to look cluttered, you can choose the Clear Menu option at the bottom. But what if you want to selectively remove items that you won't use again — software installers, for example? In that case, edit the `com.apple.recentitems.plist` file.

First, download a copy of Night Productions' free Pref Setter (see "Hotlinks"). As its name implies, this utility is intended for mucking around with OS X's preference files. Launch Pref Setter and, in its Search field, enter `recentitems`. The one entry that will appear is the one you want — `com.apple.recentitems.plist`. Double-click on the file to open it in the editor.

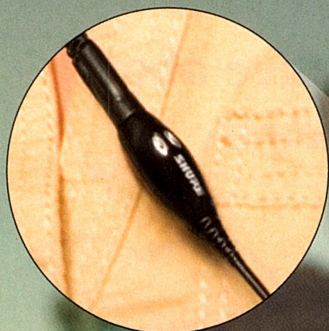
In the editor, you'll see entries for Applications, Documents, Hosts, and Servers (among other things). If you know the name of the item you'd like to delete, enter it in the Search field. For example, if you want to remove the Example.doc file, just enter Example in the search field. Any entries that don't contain the word you entered will disappear from the list; in this example, only the Documents entry will remain.

Click on the triangle next to Documents, and you'll see a CustomListItems entry. Click on the triangle next to that, and an Item entry appears. You can click on the triangle beside it to confirm that the name of this item is Example.doc. Thus assured, simply select the Item entry (Item 1, for example), click on Pref Setter's Delete button, and press ⌘-S to save your changes. When you log out and back in, the recent items you deleted will be gone.

— Christopher Breen



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SE110 earphones & MPA  
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## Hotlinks

[www.rogueamoeba.com](http://www.rogueamoeba.com)

Audio Hijack Pro, RadioShift and Fission

[www.ambrosiasw.com/utilities/wiretap/](http://www.ambrosiasw.com/utilities/wiretap/)

WireTap Studio

[audacity.sourceforge.net](http://audacity.sourceforge.net)

Audacity

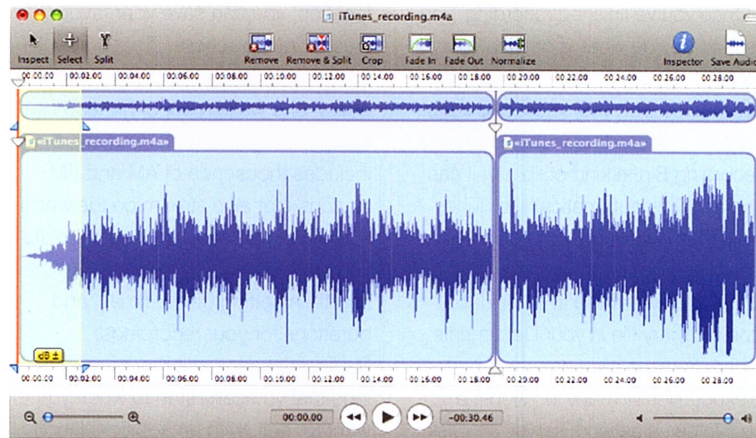
# Record any sound on your Mac

Many fleeting sounds that play on your Mac are worth preserving. Content streaming over the internet — be it internet radio, online videos, an iChat phone call, or even the audio coming from a concert DVD you're watching — can have lasting value, but such content is not always easy to capture. Maybe you're making a podcast and would like to include a Skype interview (recorded with permission, of course), or you want to take content from your favourite streaming radio station to carry with you on your iPod. With the help of the right software, you can record and edit audio files and add them to iTunes for future use.

## Capture bits and bytes.

First, you'll need software to record audio. Two excellent Mac programs can do this: Rogue Amoeba Software's Audio Hijack Pro 2.8.1 and Ambrosia Software's WireTap Studio 1.0.6 (see "Hotlinks" for both). Both allow you to capture audio coming from any program — while excluding sound from other applications or from the system — and save it in the format you want. WireTap Studio costs more than twice as much as Audio Hijack Pro, but it comes with powerful audio-editing tools; Audio Hijack Pro requires a separate editing tool, such as Rogue Amoeba Software's Fission (discussed later).

When recording any online audio, you should consider copyright restrictions. While recording and saving audio such as that from radio programs may be legal according to the US Copyright Act's "fair use" doctrine (which more or less matches



**Fission.** Trim, fade, split, and normalise recordings in Fission to make them sound better.

Australia's copyright regime since the Free Trade Agreement came into effect), you may not have the right to save — and especially to share with others — certain recordings, such as a single from a band's web site, for example.

Audio Hijack Pro and WireTap Studio work in similar ways. You choose a source (a specific application, or an audio device such as a microphone) and a format (anything from low-bit-rate MP3 to uncompressed AIFF or WAV). To save drive space, don't record at a higher quality level than the original; in most cases, streaming audio doesn't exceed 128 Kbps, so you needn't record larger files (unless you're recording music from a DVD).

The two programs work a bit differently when you initiate a recording, though. WireTap Studio simply has a Record button. With Audio Hijack Pro, you click on a Hijack button and then tell the software to begin recording. (To use this method with

Audio Hijack Pro, however, you must install a helper tool; otherwise, you'll need to quit and relaunch the source application when you "hijack" a recording from it.) Both programs let you choose when to start a new file — after so many minutes, hours, megabytes, or gigabytes — and let you set the length of the recording time, though these options are easier to set up with Audio Hijack Pro. WireTap Studio offers both quick recording (where you start and stop manually) and a Recording Sessions window (where you can preset a schedule, and even have your Mac wake up to record something).

When recording with either of these programs, you can select a single application from which to record. You can record audio from, say, Safari, iTunes, or even DVD Player (if you want to record music from a DVD you own) while you keep working on your Mac. However, bear in mind that both programs record all audio from the selected application.





So if you are recording a stream from a web site, audio from other web sites you browse to will be recorded as well.

A helpful tip: if you're planning on recording something long from a web site, use two different browsers (for example, use Firefox for recording and Safari for browsing other sites during the recording session).

Once you've finished recording, you need to decide what to do with your audio file. Audio Hijack Pro stashes files in a location you select and keeps pointers to those files in the program's Recording Bin, a kind of library; it can also add files automatically to iTunes or an iPod. WireTap Studio displays recordings in a Library window (the actual files are stored in a WireTap Studio Library file in your Documents folder). You can click on preset buttons to export files to many locations: a local folder, a network server, an iDisk, an iPod, iTunes, and more.

**All about radio.** Thousands of radio stations from around the world stream content over the internet, providing millions of hours of programming each year. You now know how to capture and record any streaming media; but if you regularly listen to internet radio, you may want to look at solutions designed for scheduled recording. Ideally, you want not only to

record, but to record at the right time to catch your favourite programs.

Do you want to capture an interview with a band you like? Or record a live concert from a classical music station? Rogue Amoeba's Radioshift lets you find the stations you want and then listen to them with a single click. The program's radio guide lists some 50,000 radio stations by genre and location; you can save your favourites for quick access. (That's about 25 times as many stations as iTunes offers; and while most of iTunes' stations are online only, Radioshift includes thousands of AM and FM stations that also stream on the web.)

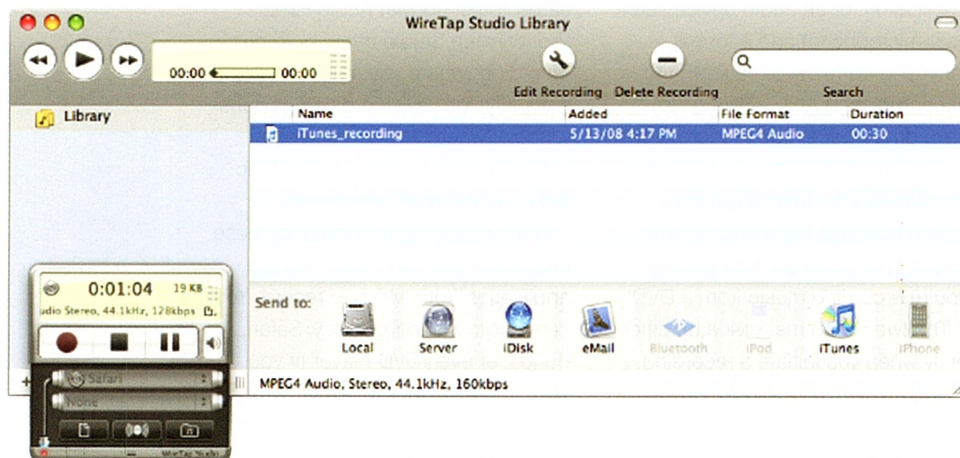
You can also record these radio stations by subscribing to them, and then setting dates, times, and durations for your recordings. Radioshift keeps a library of recordings that you can listen to when you want to, edit (with an additional tool), or export to iTunes to transfer to your iPod. Radioshift can even wake up or turn on your Mac to record your subscriptions. You can set up schedules for as many programs and stations as you want; as long as you don't try to record from two stations at the same time, everything should go smoothly.

**Edit your recordings.** While you can use these recordings as they are, it's much more useful to be able

to edit them, especially if you want to keep some of them. For instance, you might want to crop your files to remove excess audio, split them into multiple files, or export them to a different format. WireTap Studio includes a powerful editing tool, and Rogue Amoeba also sells Fission, and a bundle of Fission and Audio Hijack Pro is also available. Both of these tools offer comprehensive editing features, and make simple editing a task that anyone can do. (The open-source Audacity — see "Hotlinks" — is a free option, but it's a bit more complex.)

Editing with these tools is visual; opening a file reveals the content as a waveform. In some cases, you can spot places where programs begin and end by noting a bit of silence at those points in the waveform. Otherwise, you'll need to spend a little longer figuring it out. You can play back the audio in Fission, Audacity, or WireTap Studio's editing tool, and then choose an area to trim, crop, or split. All three programs let you save the edited files in their current format, or export them to a variety of formats. Because Audacity has to uncompress an entire program for you to work on it — something that can take a few minutes and may lead to a deterioration of sound quality — WireTap Studio and Fission are easier to use, as they work with many audio formats natively, including AAC, MP3, AIFF, and WAV.

**Organise files.** As with any files you add to iTunes, you must tag them properly to find them in the future. Start by adding a name, an artist, and perhaps an album name (which for radio shows could be the name of the program), and then add any other tags that will help you sort these files. Files you record in formats that iTunes accepts — such as AAC or MP3 — will work fine in iTunes and on your iPod, so you can listen to those recordings anywhere. — Kirk McElhearn

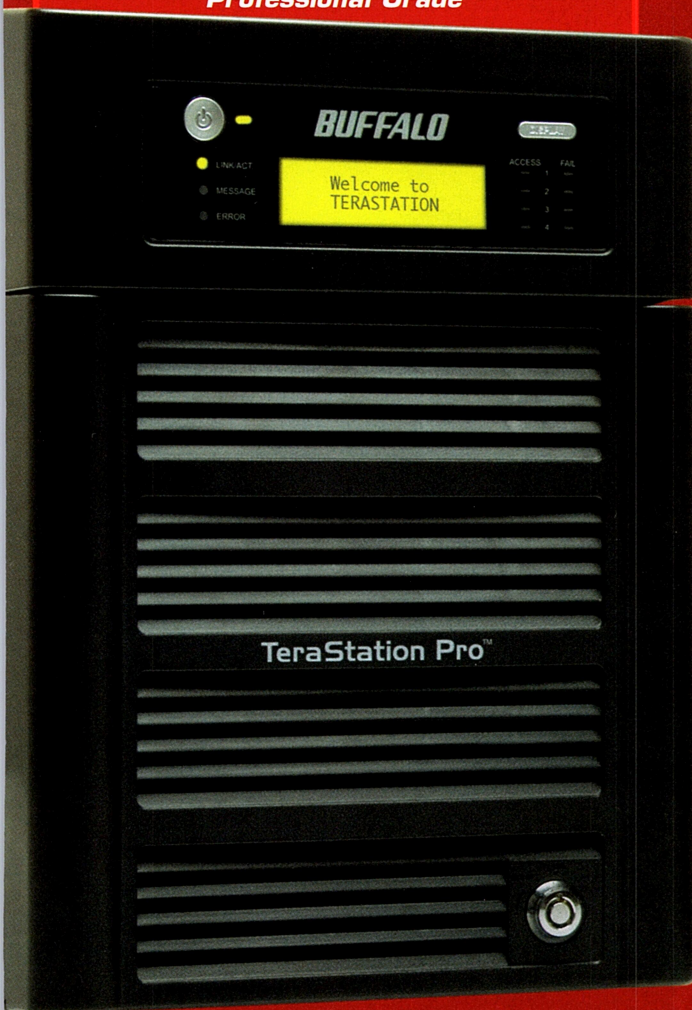


**WireTap Studio.** It's easy to capture and keep track of recordings with WireTap Studio's floating recording controller and library.



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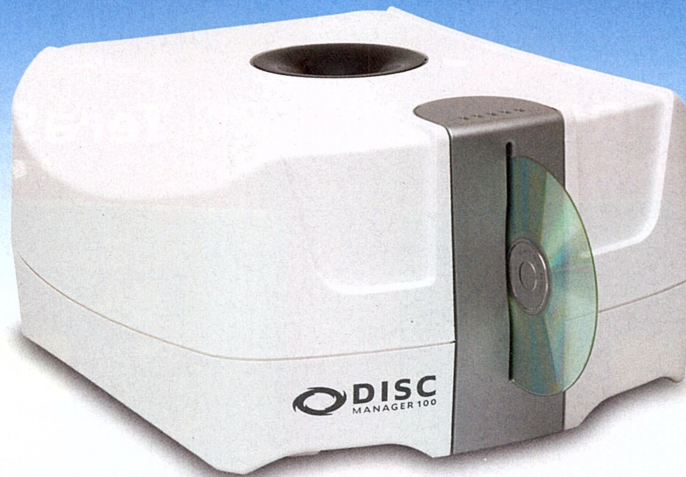
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# Put displays to sleep with the keyboard

I don't like leaving my displays on when I leave my Mac for an extended length of time, because it wastes energy and shortens the potential life of the display. But I also prefer not to put my Mac itself to sleep because I often want to access it remotely, or download large files when I step away. Luckily, there are a number of ways to turn off only your displays.

For instance, you can go to the Energy Saver preference pane and use the Put The Display To Sleep When The Computer Is Inactive time slider. Personally, I find it hard to get the right setting here — it's annoying to have my displays switch off when all I've done is pause to think. Alternatively, you can use Apple's Keychain Access (in / Applications/Utilities). Select Keychain Access: Preferences and select the Show Status In Menu Bar option. When you do this, a new Keychain icon appears in your menu bar. Click on it and select Lock Screen to make your screen turn black. (You'll need to enter your password to turn it back on again.) Finally, you can go to the Exposé & Spaces

preference pane (in Tiger and Leopard), click on one of the pop-up menus under Activate Screen Corners, and choose Sleep Display. Now when you drag your cursor to that corner and wait a second, your displays will go to sleep.

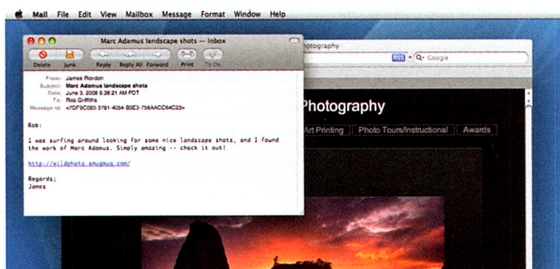
If you're using Leopard, though, there's a new hidden method that's easier to use than all the others and requires no use of the mouse or menus. Just press shift-control-eject, and all attached displays will instantly go to sleep. Move your mouse or press a key on the keyboard, and the displays awaken. It doesn't get much simpler than that. Note that if you've set your system to require a password whenever your computer wakes up from sleep or from your screen saver, that password prompt won't be triggered if you put your displays to sleep this way. You can still make it happen, though, by first activating your screen saver and then pressing shift-control-eject. The password dialog box will appear when you press the hot-key combination, but if you then click on Cancel, the displays should go to sleep.

— Rob Griffiths

## Leave links in the background

Do you receive many a URL-laden e-mail message? Normally, when you click on a link in Apple's Mail, the web page opens in your preferred browser and comes to the foreground. However, when I'm reading e-mail, I usually prefer to keep reading the message and just check the link when I'm done. If you're running OS X 10.4 (Tiger) or OS X 10.5 (Leopard), ⌘-clicking on the link will open the web page in the background, so you can keep reading your mail.

As a side hint, remember that you can always see the actual URL for a link in Mail just by hovering over the hyperlink — Mail will then pop up a tooltip showing the actual address. This is a good way to make sure you're opening the web page you intend to, rather than a nefariously disguised link. — Rob Griffiths



**Manage e-mail links.** By ⌘-clicking on links in Apple's Mail, you can force them to open in the background, leaving you free to continue to read your messages now and check the web pages later.

## Use a spring-loaded Path Bar in the Finder

Leopard's Path Bar is like a trail of breadcrumbs to help you navigate today's immense hard drives. Once enabled in the Finder (View: Show Path Bar), it resides at the bottom of each Finder window, displaying the full path to the currently selected folder. You can control-click on any item in the Path Bar and use the resulting contextual menu to open it or its enclosing folder.

One thing you can't do is automatically open a new Finder window by dragging an object over an item in the Path Bar, hovering, and then pressing the spacebar, as you may wish to do when moving a file, for instance. As it turns out, however, the Finder's Path Bar does become "spring-loaded" in one situation — when you use Spotlight to find files.

For example, let's say you have a folder called Clients, and within that, a folder for each client you work with. You realise that you've misfiled a number of documents for a certain client. Using Spotlight, locate those files and then select them all. Drag them over the Clients folder on the Path Bar, press the spacebar, and — presto — a new Finder window opens. Now just drag the files into the proper folder at the top level of the Clients folder, and you're done.

— Rob Griffiths



## Put program icons to work

If you're ever in a situation where you need a high-quality version of an OS X program icon — say, for use in a presentation — it can be a bit of a chore to get it. The usual method, which I call the “find-the-icon-file-in-the-haystack game,” goes like this: control-click on the program in question, select Show Package Contents from the contextual menu, and then navigate to the Contents/Resources folder. Somewhere inside, you should find a file with a name ending in .icns. Open that file in Preview, and you'll find the icons.

The problem with this approach is that there can be hundreds of files in the Resources folder, and the naming of the .icns file isn't necessarily logical, so it can take a bit of digging — or help from Spotlight — to find the right file. Luckily, there's a much simpler — although completely non-obvious — way to get all of a program's icons, at least if you're running Tiger or Leopard.

In the Finder, select the program in question, and press ⌘-C. You've now got a full copy of the program on your clipboard. (Don't believe me? Press ⌘-V after switching to another folder in the Finder — if you're going to do this, I suggest copying a small program and not something like iWeb.) Now launch Preview, and press ⌘-N (File: New From Clipboard, for you menu users). You may be surprised at the result: a full copy of the chosen program's icons, in every available size including the gorgeous new 512x512-pixel versions available in many programs.

Click on the desired icon size in Preview's sidebar and select File: Save As to save it in the file format of your choice. (If



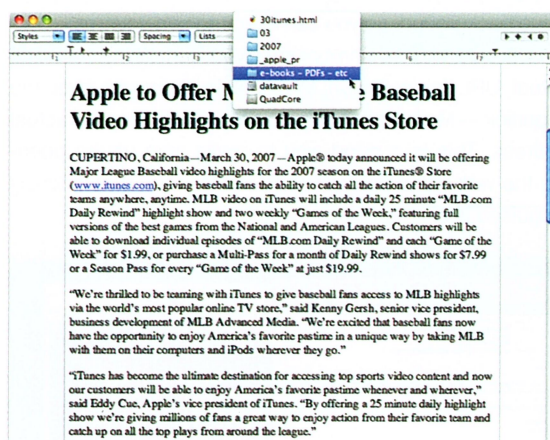
**Easy access application icons.** Need to use a program's icon in a presentation? Use a little-known and very simple trick to see and save all of them — including the new 512x512-pixel versions available in many programs, such as Final Cut Express, that have been updated for Leopard.

you want to retain the transparency, you'll need to use PNG or TIFF as the file type.) This trick worked with every program I tested it with. You can also use it to get document icons for things like Excel spreadsheets, Word documents, and so on. If you try this with a PDF, though, you'll find that Preview will actually paste in the entire PDF, not its icon. — Rob Griffiths

## See file paths using title bar icons

Wondering where a file you're working on is saved? Just ⌘-click on the proxy icon and accompanying text in the title bar of most OS X windows to see a drop-down menu with the currently active document's path. In TextEdit, for instance, ⌘-click on the icon in the document's title bar, and you'll see the full path to that document's save location. Select one of the folders on the path, and that folder will open in the Finder. In Safari, you'll see the path to the current page from the root of the web site; select one of the other entries in the list to load that page in the browser.

If you're running Leopard, it's now a little easier to use this trick. You can choose to control-click on an icon to access its path. This means that if you have a multi-button mouse, you can make the drop-down menu appear with a click of your right mouse button — no need to hold a key on the keyboard and use the mouse at the same time. — Rob Griffiths



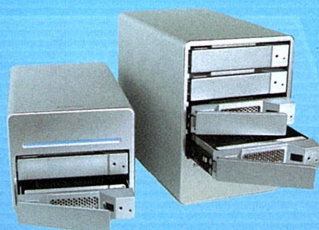
**Proxy icon path.** By ⌘-clicking (or, in Leopard, control-clicking) on the proxy icon at the top of an OS X window, you can see the full path to the currently opened file. If you try the same trick in Safari, you'll see the full path to the root of the currently viewed web site.



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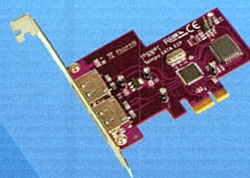


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## Hotlinks

[www.twinfoces.com/frictionless/time\\_machine\\_perspective.html](http://www.twinfoces.com/frictionless/time_machine_perspective.html)

Time Machine Perspective

[fernlightning.com/doku.php?id=software:misc:tms](http://fernlightning.com/doku.php?id=software:misc:tms)

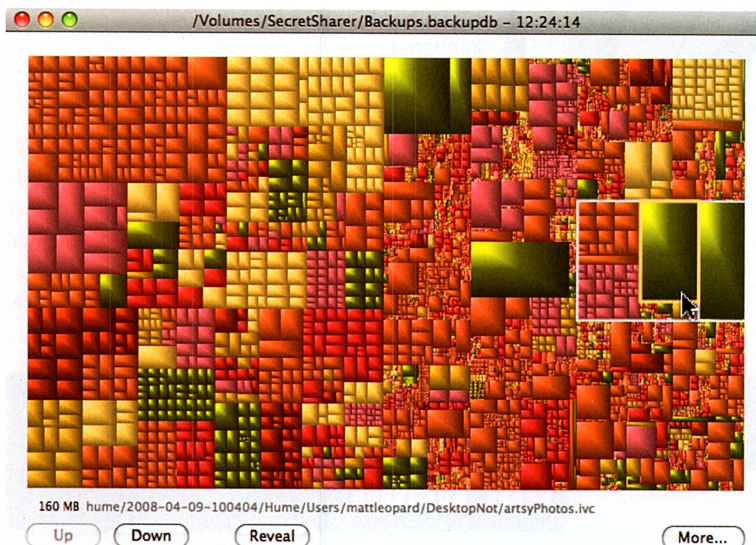
TMS

# Manage Time Machine

For most Leopard users, Time Machine simply works: switch it on and it will back up your hard disk every hour. But you can, if you wish, take a more proactive approach.

For example, you can make sure you've backed up only the latest version of a file. To do so, first prune its old backups: in the Time Machine interface, select the item, and choose Delete All Backups Of from the Action menu (denoted with a gear icon). Then select the Time Machine icon in the menu bar and choose Back Up Now. You can also prune a single snapshot: navigate to the desired time and date and then choose Delete Backup.

If you want to find out if you've got unnecessary backups of a file, Time Machine Perspective (see "Hotlinks") — a hacked version of the utility GrandPerspective — can help. This version makes it easier to spot large files that change more often than your backup schedule can handle (such as mailbox databases; this is particularly helpful if you also prune snapshots). Finally, if you want some really powerful Time Machine backup management, try the command-line tool tms (see "Hotlinks"). How many different versions of artsyPhotos.ivc have I backed up? The tms log command tells me. Other useful options are tms snapshots, which lists all your snapshots; tms snaplog, which reveals extensive information logged while making a snapshot; and my favour-



**Time Machine Perspective.** Using this utility, you can see which files on your Time Machine backups are taking up too much hard-drive space.

rite, tms delta, which tells you what files in a snapshot differ from those in the previous snapshot (and therefore occupy actual backup space). — *Matt Neuburg*

## Open a new window when switching programs

Most OS X programs will run without any open windows — close the last one, and the program keeps running. If you switch to that program by clicking on its Dock icon, a new window appears, ready for your use. Not so, though, if you activate the program by using the ⌘-tab application switcher. In that case, you switch to the program but no new window appears, which means that you have to press ⌘-N to open a new window.

Here's a trick you can use — in Leopard only — to force the application switcher to open a new window. Let's say you launched Apple's Safari, browsed for a bit, and then closed your last browser window. You then switched over to Apple's TextEdit, but now you want to check a web page. To activate Safari and open a new window, press

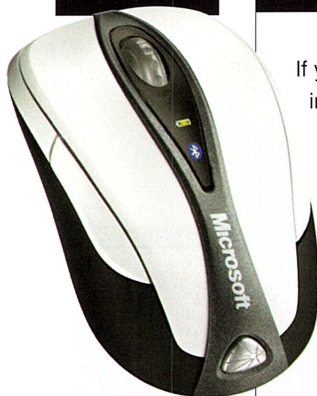
⌘-tab until Safari is highlighted in the application switcher. Still holding down the ⌘ key, press and hold the option key. Release the ⌘ key first and then the option key. Safari will spring to the foreground, and a new window will appear. If the program already has an open window, this trick won't open a second one. Instead, the already-opened window will be active when you switch. If the program you're switching to has a docked window — but no other open windows — this trick will spring that window free from the Dock. This is a handy way to free docked windows without relying on the mouse. Note that this trick may not work in every program, but testing it yourself with the applications you use the most is quick and easy. — *Rob Griffiths*





#### Microsoft Reader tip

## Get help with spelling



If you're stuck for spelling of a word while you're typing, start the word and then press option-escape and a list of words beginning with the letters you typed drops down. I guess it only works in certain apps, but it's cool.

Am I glad I bought a Mac or what?

*Xenophos,*

*Via the AMW forums*

*Each month, Microsoft gives a Bluetooth Notebook Mouse 5000 valued at \$70 to the Australian Macworld reader who submits (via e-mail or the web site) the best and most useful undocumented tip. Enjoy wireless freedom with the Bluetooth Notebook Mouse 5000 — no transceiver to connect or lose!*

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#### Reader help of the month

## Hide a Boot Camp partition

I have to run Boot Camp so I can work on Microsoft Access databases for work. So depending on the amount of time I have to work on something will depend if I open it in Fusion or Boot Camp. I would like to hide the Boot Camp partition but I understand that it's a Terminal job requiring the installation of developer tools etc. Is there an easier way to do this?

*meinrosebud*

*Via AMW forums*

*If you want to be able to access it from the Mac side if need be, you don't have Dev tools, or you don't want to play with making stuff invisible, you can make a simple AppleScript to add to your login items.*

*Open the Script Editor in Applications/AppleScript and type the following:*

```
- tell application "Finder"
- eject disk "name of boot camp drive"
- end tell
```

*Click compile, then save somewhere on your Mac HD. I have one in my Dock to eject the three partitions of my LaCie Big Disk. It's pretty self-explanatory what it does.*

*To remount the partition, open Disk Utility, where you will see the partition greyed-out. Select it, then click Mount in the toolbar. — skyhawkmatthew, via the AMW forums*

## Access hidden preferences

Much of the time, you can use a program's Preferences dialog box to change its settings. But the defaults command can give you access to preferences that are not available from the GUI. The generalised format for any default command is `defaults write preference-file key newvalue`. So, for example, the command `defaults write com.apple.dashboard mcx-disabled -boolean YES` means, "In Dashboard's preference file, change the Boolean key mcx-disabled to YES" — or in plain English, turn Dashboard off. (You'll need to type `killall Dock` for the command to take effect.)

All "modern" preference files — meaning those in XML format that follow Apple's guidelines — can, in theory, be changed using the defaults system. Most of these files reside in the `youruserfolder/Library/Preferences` folder. To see inside these files, you can use the `defaults read` command. For example, to see what's in Safari's preferences file, type `defaults read -app Safari`. Theoretically, you can change any key you find in an XML preferences file. Most of the switches for these keys are Boolean: on/off, true/false, or 0/1. Some use a `-boolean` flag followed by `YES` or `NO`, or a `-bool` flag followed by `TRUE` or `FALSE`. And most are reversible: for example, you can turn Dashboard back on by issuing the command `defaults write com.apple.dashboard mcx-disabled -boolean NO` (followed by another `killall Dock`). — Kirk McElhearn



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## Solve Keychain hassles

STM Query  
of the month

Since activating my iPhone and having MobileMe up and running, I cannot receive e-mail to my domain name address on my MacBook. I am receiving mail to the address on my iPhone but on the MacBook it keeps asking for my password, and even when I put in the password it rejects it. Then out of the blue it will run correctly for a new e-mail collection, but then go back to not accepting the password the next time. I spoke to my isp and they tested it and said everything is working properly — which it is, given that the mail is coming to my iPhone.

gramsey,  
Via AMW forums

Given that the iPhone is happy, it's likely a settings issue on the MacBook — I'd clear out any entries in the Keychain for that account, then recheck, saving the password to the Keychain when asking again to see if that clears it up. You can type your e-mail username in the little search field at the top right of the Keychain Access program (available in /Applications/Utilities/) to find any or all entries for that address, then just select them in the list and press the Delete key. — Sean McNamara

Each month STM (02 8338 0222) gives a medium Rogue backpack to the Australian Macworld reader who send in or posts to the forum the most intriguing query.

STM's medium rogue backpack creates mischief for would-be thieves by concealing the laptop compartment from view and hiding it in an internal wall of the bag — so nobody knows you're carrying a laptop except you.

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Send your query to [matthew.powell@niche.com.au](mailto:matthew.powell@niche.com.au) or post in the forums at [www.macworld.com.au/forums](http://www.macworld.com.au/forums). All queries and solutions are the sole property of Niche Media. 📧



## Extend your wireless network

I want to extend or increase the foot print of my wireless network. I currently have an Air Port Extreme, and from a particular area of my house where I am doing more and more work, the coverage is poor.

I have a D-Link G Wireless broadband router which is not doing much. Is there anyway I can incorporate this into my current network, as to increase the range? Moving the AirPort Extreme is not an option.

Adamv  
Via the AMW forums

Can you get a wire between the two routers, then put the D-Link into bridge mode (no routing, NAT, DHCP, etc.)? You could then use the wireless network from that. We use different network names here for a similar setup — the Mac/s will choose whichever wireless network has the strongest signal. We also use a D-Link wireless range extender. It works quite well, hanging wirelessly off a Netgear wireless modem router hub thingy. When our modem was a Motorola one it caused no end of problems with the D-Link extender and our AirPort Express, so I turned off the wireless on the Express, and laid a wire for it. — Sean McNamara

## Add horizontal scrolling for older mice

If the electronic rodent attached to your Mac is of an older vintage, it may not include the latest bells and whistles, such as the all-directions scroll ball that comes with Apple's Mighty Mouse. Stuck with a unidirectional scroll wheel, you may think you're missing out, but in fact, though you can't scroll diagonally with your mouse, you can scroll horizontally and vertically in most programs.

How? Just hold down the shift key prior to spinning your scroll wheel, and you'll scroll horizontally instead of vertically — scrolling down moves the page to the left, and scrolling up moves the page to the right. This should work in almost every program. I tested the major browsers and Apple's offerings (including the Finder), and the trick worked in all of them. Although there are good reasons to buy a new mouse, if all you feel you're missing is horizontal scrolling, try the shift key before reaching for your wallet. — Rob Griffiths

**Old mouse, new trick.** Even if your mouse doesn't come with an all-directions scroll ball, a simple key command will probably let you scroll both horizontally and vertically.







## Hotlinks

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transport\\_Layer\\_Security](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transport_Layer_Security)

SSL

[www.macworld.com.au/help/view/beginners-start-here-when-e-mail-goes-bad-474](http://www.macworld.com.au/help/view/beginners-start-here-when-e-mail-goes-bad-474)

More info on e-mail problems

# Beginners start here: e-mail configuration problems

**B**efore we know where e-mail configurations can go wrong, we need to know where they're supposed to go right.

For both incoming and outgoing mail we need to know the mail server, whether the connection is established via Secure Sockets Layer (SSL, a form of connection encryption) and the port the connection is established over. For incoming mail, you'll always need the type of account (POP or IMAP) and the username and password (and occasionally the authentication method) — for outgoing mail, you need to know whether you need to authenticate with a username and password.

There are numerous combinations of the options I've just listed, which can make troubleshooting a problem seem even more daunting. For example, if you also inadvertently choose IMAP instead of POP when your provider doesn't support it, but put everything else in perfectly, your incoming mail still won't work.

## Troubleshooting step 1.

The first thing to do is to determine if the problem is only for incoming or

outgoing mail, or both. If it's both, we need to then determine if any network operations are working — it would be worthwhile checking if the web is working, just to eliminate more general networking problems. The most common reason for both incoming and outgoing mail not working when other network operations are OK is that there is a single mail server for both incoming and outgoing mail — it's likely in this case that just the mail server setting has been mis-entered into the mail client (through a mistaken transcription, for example) or there's actually a problem with the server itself.

If you're experiencing problems only one-way, you then have to consider that any one of the many settings mentioned above may be mis-entered, or that the server in question is experiencing problems.

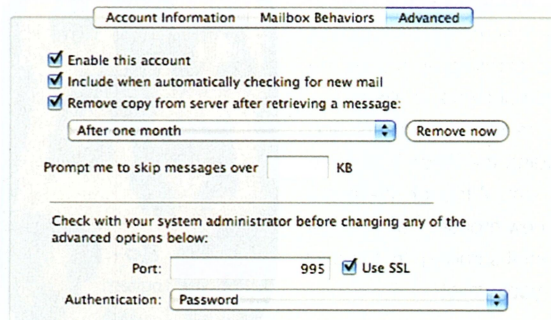
As with any of the settings we're looking at, it's worthwhile double-checking what the server setting should be and checking with the provider whether the server/s are fully operational. When checking your settings, you should re-type any settings entered in a text field. Use the tab key to move between the fields in the settings dialog/screen, because if you have a space character after one of the settings, you might not select it if you click and drag the setting in question — using the tab key will select the whole contents of the field, whether they're visible or not. It's always worthwhile to get the settings in some sort of print form if possible — many providers send the settings to new customers when they sign up, or they can be checked on

the web. Having something provided for you, rather than something you transcribe during a phone call, will always be more reliable, but if you have no choice, checking the settings over the phone with your provider and carefully transcribing them may be the next best option. Just make sure you check the spelling of every word-like setting (using the NATO phonetic alphabet) and double-check any other settings, especially numerical ones like port numbers.

## Sometimes it's just not your fault.

Recently a friend of mine wasn't receiving mail from a particular correspondent — there were no bounce messages and no indication of what was going wrong. It just so happened that my friend's correspondent was on the same ISP as me, so I tried sending an e-mail to my friend using my ISP's outgoing mail server rather than our domain hosting company's server. The mail didn't get through and I received no bounce message, so I knew that it wasn't an e-mail client configuration error on either end but a server problem at the ISP, most likely a routing problem.

On a final note, another seemingly innocent area where incoming mail can go wrong is with the "leave mail on server"-type setting in most e-mail clients. If this is set to too long a period, your mailbox may fill up and e-mail may start to bounce. If people get bounce error messages which indicate a full mailbox, it would be worthwhile checking this setting to see if it's turned on, and if it is, if it's set to a long time. — Sean McNamara



**Additional details.** Some of the extra settings you may need.



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**Martin Levins**  
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people to create  
using computing  
technologies

# A pain in the neck?

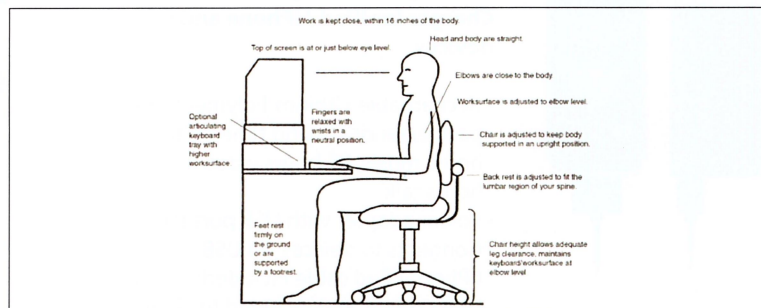
One of the little-addressed issues in computer use is ergonomics. With young bodies rapidly growing new bone and muscle in all sorts of directions, governed by a brain that can be single-focused for much of the time, we need to address the issue of the Occupational Health and Safety of our students. Note there's the opportunity here for another "sky is falling" argument that you will read in tabloids or see on current affairs TV programs, so we need to know what the true situation is about any danger that students may be facing.

The curious thing is that, as with a lot of things, the true situation is not immediately apparent.

First, a lot of the research done on computer use is based on the use of desktops in an industrial workspace that does not mirror school use. It concentrates on repetitive strain and other injuries caused by spending long times in the one position. We've all seen diagrams of users positioned with elbows at 90 degrees, eyes looking slightly below the horizontal to a screen which is positioned just right so as to avoid glare. Users are expected to take a break every 45 minutes or so and exercise to keep musculo-skeletal damage at bay.

Now, you can probably already see where I'm heading with this: kids don't use computers this way in schools.

Unless you are teaching a 1950s secretarial program, your learning experiences are unlikely to have students doing the one thing for the whole period and the only time you'll find secondary students sitting still for long periods is during exams. It's curious that nobody directs attention



to the musculo-skeletal implications of traditional exam preparation and taking, but this is not the only paradox in OH&S discussions.

The users of desktop computers are expected to adjust the heights of seat, keyboard and screen separately, yet our classrooms have a one size fits all form factor irrespective of student size and shape. Laptops gain particular attention because the relative positions of screen and keyboard are fixed. They are also criticised for their weight — carrying a 2kg laptop is too much for a young student apparently, yet a 5kg cricket set is OK, not to mention a suite of heavy textbooks.

So what does the research say?

Not much, unfortunately, and when it does say something, it equivocates and calls for more research. You wonder if this is genuine or a push for funding? Sorry — cynic off.

The most prolific of the researchers has been Leon Straker of Curtin University in Western Australia. Using local and overseas cohorts, his research indicates the paucity of information regarding student computer use and computer use generally in a non-industrial environment. Essentially, the more you use computers, the more you can expect problems and the more you use computers in the same position, the more problems you can expect.

No rocket science here, but, curiously, the results of his surveys into,

say, neck pain indicate a distribution that shows increased neck pain from using laptops a relatively short time and a decrease for longer use!

As well as Straker's work, the mother lode of research seems to be Cornell university's "Ergonomics Web" indicating, amongst other things, that student backpacks should be a lot lighter than the ones I picked up on the bus stop the other day. A maximum of 11.3kg is recommended, with approximately 7–9kg for most students in secondary. Lose those Chemistry texts.

The advent of the Eee type machines, with their smaller than normal keyboards, can cause an increase in lateral flexion which sounds fairly painful to me. Look at anyone using these tiny keyboards and you can see their hands close together, with a relatively large angle between hand and arm, stressing the wrist. This is a good argument for the conventionally-sized keyboards on MacBooks, although you will get lots of arguments about its size until you place a normal keyboard side by side and note that they are, in fact, the same size.

The best advice that I can see is that, essentially, a classroom setting that facilitates frequent movement, frequent breaks, attention to body posture, stretching, varied seating and modifications to existing furniture where necessary will do the trick.

Fairly obvious when you think about it. ☹



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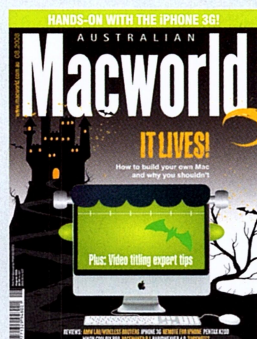


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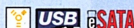


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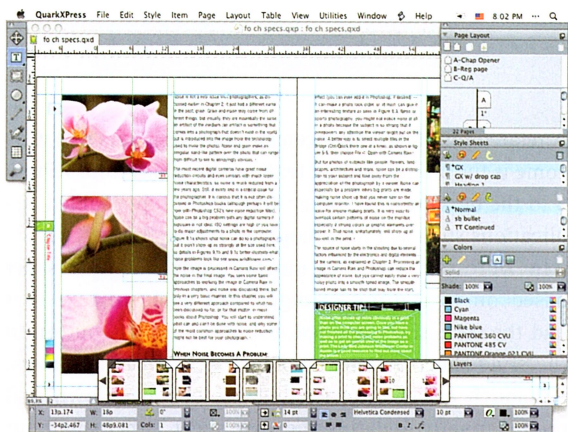
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**Surface revisions.** XPress 8's simplified user interface reduces the number of tools and simplifies palettes, and on the Mac, provides previews of pages for navigation. But the software's dialog boxes and menus are essentially unchanged.

# QuarkXPress 8

*Major interface overhaul brings more simplicity and ease of use, but few new features*

QuarkXPress 8 is a brave release. It marks a major change to the user interface of the venerable page-layout and design program for the Mac. The familiar interface that QuarkXPress has held to for 21 years is now more similar in style to that of Adobe's design applications. At the same time, version 8 offers very little in the way of new features, thus making the interface change its hallmark.

Much of what is "new" in XPress 8 comes from a free XTension to QuarkXPress 7 and the previously separate Quark Interactive Designer. If you've installed the free Quark XPert Tools Pro XTension, you already have several of XPress 8's new print- and web-oriented features, such as item styles and item find/change. And if you have already purchased Quark Interactive Designer, you have its new Flash-creation features as well. Obviously, if you never updated from XPress 6.5 to XPress 7, these features will all be truly new to you if you purchase version 8.

Given how much of what's new to XPress 8 is a roll-up of existing Quark applications, it's easy to see XPress 8 as old wine in new bottles. And it essentially is just that. There are a few truly unique functional additions, including a sophisticated set of controls for optical margin alignment (what QuarkXPress calls hanging characters), the ability to create grid styles, and the ability to specify the way characters align vertically as part of a paragraph style.

**Simplified user interface.** Changing the user interface of an established application is very risky for software companies. Quark has certainly evolved the interface of XPress over its 21-year history, but essentially, the program has stayed fairly close to its original look-and-feel for the last 18 years. XPress 8 goes

beyond previous versions' approach of enhancing tools (such as the versatile Measurements palette) by actually changing how the basic interface works.

The new interface is simpler, cleaner, and easier to work with, and because of that streamlining, feels a bit faster too. Quark has avoided Adobe's tendency to over-complicate the interface, and instead has made its capabilities easily accessible without getting in your way. It's done this by displaying far fewer tools: eight, versus 16 (in the Web layout) in XPress 7.3. Plus, these tools are now more flexible. For example, XPress 8 lets you rotate an object with the Item and Picture Content tools that you frequently use rather than forcing you switch to the Rotate tool — there is no longer a Rotate tool. You can now resize an object or its contents the same way.

Ironically, XPress 8 accomplishes this by adopting the approach of Adobe's Free Transform tool, which lets you do several things to an object. But Quark one-ups Adobe by not segregating the Free Transform functions to a separate tool; instead it marries them to the Item and Picture Content tools you use so often in XPress. Plus, XPress 8 provides a live preview of your changes as you make them.

Quark has also changed the behaviour of its Bézier drawing tool to work more like those of Adobe Photoshop and Illustrator. The changes are subtle but make it easier to switch among all three programs.

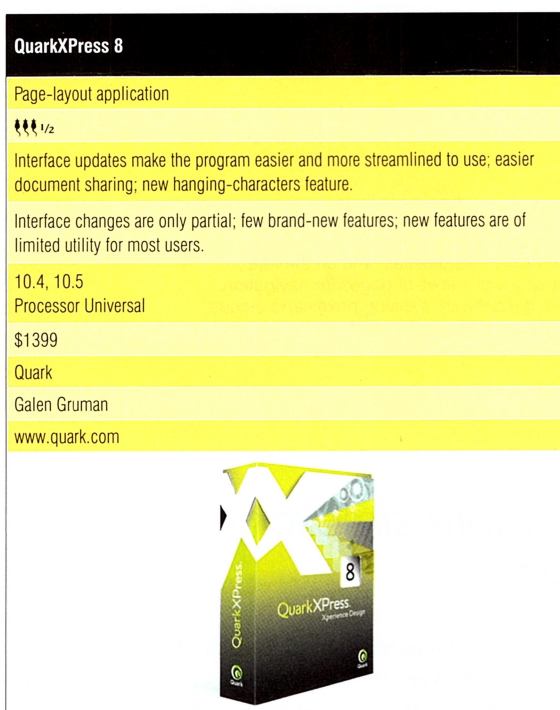
Quark has made XPress's Measurements palette more capable, but not more confusing, with several new panes that provide additional functionality without having to use dialog boxes and palettes. There are also new quick-access options to switch to a document's master page and to export it to PDF, EPS, HTML, or Flash files. This bolsters a key XPress interface strength: not having to hunt for options in layout-obscuring panels and dialog boxes.

View your options, make your choices. *Australian Macworld* puts latest-release hardware and software through its paces.

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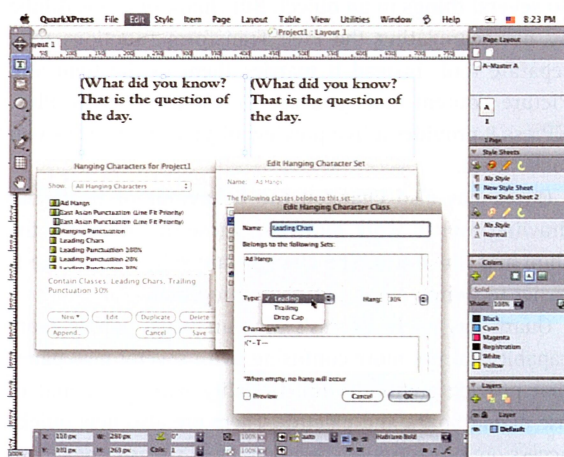


Type	Page-layout application
Rating	★★ 1/2
Pros	Interface updates make the program easier and more streamlined to use; easier document sharing; new hanging-characters feature.
Cons	Interface changes are only partial; few brand-new features; new features are of limited utility for most users.
OS X	10.4, 10.5 Processor Universal
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XPress 8 also seems simpler than InDesign when it comes to the palettes (called panels in InDesign) that offer specialty controls for editing and applying style sheets or managing colours. And InDesign makes almost every feature available via panels, while XPress splits features between palettes and menu-invoked dialog boxes, which can make it hard to remember that some of those unseen dialog boxes, and their features, actually exist.

You no longer need to draw a box before importing text or graphics. Instead, you can now directly import or drag text and images into your layout, from any drag-and-drop-enabled application or the Finder, and XPress 8 will create the appropriate box to hold it.



**Hanging out.** XPress 8 lets you define precisely how various characters overhang the left and right edges of text boxes, a common advertising technique.

A related interface enhancement that designers will welcome is the ability to drag text and graphics from XPress 8 to the desktop or to other drag-and-drop-enabled applications such as Photoshop and Adobe Bridge CS3.

In XPress 8, you can quickly update a style sheet based on formatting changes you made to text that had the style sheet applied, using the Update button in the style sheet palettes — old news to InDesign users, but much easier than writing the changes down and then manually updating the style sheet. Other small but welcome interface enhancements include the ability to change the pasteboard size and colour and the ability to choose which application you want to edit original graphics in. Moreover, in the Mac version only, XPress 8 shows resizable preview thumbnails of your pages in the Page menu, which can make it easier to jump to the desired page.

**New features appeal to a few.** When it comes to actual new design capabilities, XPress 8's few additions will appeal to just a fraction of users. The most widely applicable is the ability to create grid styles, so you can set up separate grids for text alignment and then associate them to as many text boxes as desired to ensure consistent grid use. You can also have separate grids on each master page.

But this feature is not well implemented: Chances are that if you're applying grids to individual text boxes, you're applying other attributes (such as margins and fills) to those boxes consistently as well. You would use the item-styles feature — which was previously available through the free XPert Tools Pro XTension — to apply those styles, so it would make sense for the item style to let you also specify the desired grid style. But there is no connection, so you'll have to apply grid styles separately from item styles.

XPress 8 also introduces styles for hanging characters. With hanging characters, you can specify precisely how text aligns at the left or right edge of a column. This is useful in ads, posters, and other typographically oriented publications, as it can create a more visually pleasant edge by adjusting the parts of characters that could overhang, such as the bar in an uppercase T, the serif in a lowercase m, and various punctuation characters. Although most users won't need this level of control, typographic fine artists will appreciate it.

The third truly new feature in XPress 8 is the ability to set characters' vertical alignment. This setting is important only if you have text (or inline graphics) whose size differs from the rest of the text in your paragraph. Normally, all characters align to the baseline of each line, no matter their size. Now, XPress 8 lets you change how the characters align, such as to the top of each line or to the middle. This, too, is a feature that typographic




fine artists will appreciate but that most users will likely never have reason to take advantage of.

XPress 8 adds support for Illustrator file import, a critical feature to designers. But smaller, less important issues have yet to be resolved. For example, while XPress lets you drag multiple graphics into your layout at the same time, you cannot import them all at once via the Get Text or Get Pictures dialog boxes, as you can in InDesign's Place dialog box. XPress 8 also does not correct the longstanding unintuitive, convoluted approach to importing Excel files.

**Key additions rolled in.** Of the features rolled into XPress 8 from previous Quark add-ons, the most significant is the interactive set from Quark Interactive Designer, which lets you create basic Flash animations within XPress, such as buttons, rollovers, and objects that move along a path. This capability has no equal in InDesign, but be aware that because XPress 8 exports SWF files instead of Flash project files, you cannot edit these files in Flash CS3 Professional.

Item styles and item find/change (derived from XPress Tools Pro) are also a key addition in XPress 8, making it easier to ensure consistent formatting of objects,

such as their colour, margins, and text wrap. But InDesign's long-available object styles are much more capable than XPress's item styles, so it's really just a basic catch-up capability for Quark – and available for free for XPress 7.3 users. And a few useful XPress Tools Pro features – multiple-page paste, group scaling, and saved layout settings – did not find their way into XPress 8, but should have.

**Australian Macworld's buying advice.** Quark touts the benefits of XPress 8's new user interface for the legions of designers who also use Adobe Creative Suite. These same legions, of course, have long used both, so they've already come to terms with the interface differences. Quark has done a very good job in making the new interface work more like Creative Suite while not being a difficult switch for long-time XPress users. That's mainly due to the fact that the interface changes don't extend throughout the software, so much of the old XPress still survives. Without significant new functionality to go with the new interface, it's hard to imagine why those who already live in both the XPress and Creative Suite worlds wouldn't continue to do so, avoiding the cost of an upgrade. 

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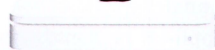
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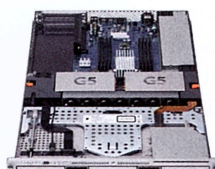
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<a href="http://www.codeweavers.com/">www.codeweavers.com/</a>

# CrossOver Mac Professional 7

*Windows apps on your Mac without Windows installed*

For Mac users stuck in a Windows-dominated office, there is hope. Virtualisation environments such as Parallels Desktop and VMware Fusion let you run the Windows operating system and Windows-only programs on a Mac, but the install process is complex and time-consuming, and the programs can slow down even a speedy Mac. As an alternative, Codeweavers CrossOver Mac Professional 7.0.2 uses just the Windows application programming interface (API) to run Windows apps on your Mac, without the Windows OS.

CrossOver is a kind of “translator” and relies on an open source program called Wine. When you install and run Windows apps, Wine is actually translating the API calls that allow a Windows program to run, such as “pull up this dialog box” or “save this file.” CrossOver hides the clunky interface of the open-source Wine software behind a more Mac-like interface.

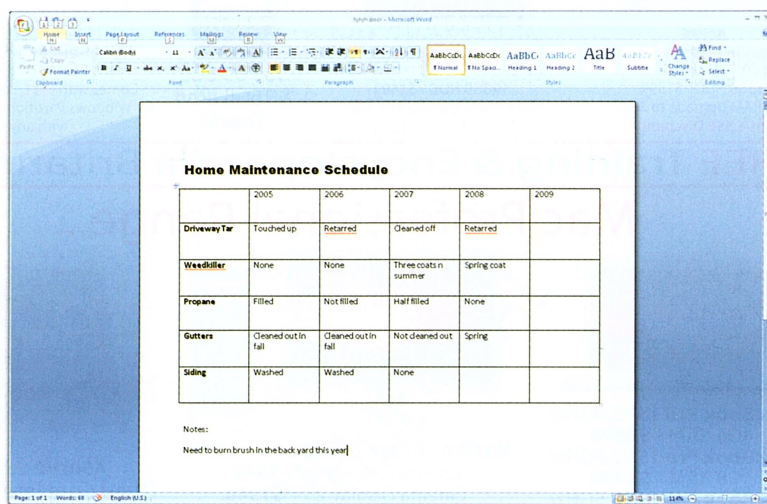
CrossOver is an ingenious idea for a program that can save time and costs less than buying a separate copy of Windows.

**Performance issues.** Still, before you dream of storming the beach in Call of Duty 4 or running the latest Windows version of Adobe Photoshop (because, say, your company has a Windows-only site license), be aware that CrossOver supports only a handful of commercial applications, many of them from Microsoft; otherwise, it's hit or miss.

CrossOver supports several games, including Half-Life 2: Episode 2 and Counter-Strike, which both ran like they were on their native platform and without any major glitches. Unfortunately, a vast majority of the latest PC games, such as Crysis and Call of Duty 4 – a major reason you might want to buy CrossOver – are not fully supported yet. For example, Crysis seemed like it would install, but did not. For productivity tools, CrossOver fully supports Microsoft Office 2000 apps, and also supports more recent software – including Office 2003, Quicken, and Lotus Notes – but with known bugs.

The Pro version of CrossOver we used for testing includes two distinct versions of the program, one for productivity and one for games. The Standard version does not support games. This is a little confusing – I would prefer one app that ran both applications and games in a Pro version instead of having two icons on my Dock. What's more, Australian distributor Pica seemed to be unaware of the Standard version when we enquired about it, so if you want the less expensive CrossOver you may have to buy online.

For supported apps, installation works great. For example, if you insert the installation disc for Adobe Photoshop CS2, CrossOver launches automatically and prompts you to install it. The installation takes place using the Windows API. CrossOver also adds newly



### Defenestrated.

With CrossOver Mac Professional, you can run Windows apps, but without ever touching an actual Windows operating system disc.



installed programs to the Mac Applications folder, and you can launch them from the Dock. When you print, CrossOver uses your Mac print driver. In daily use for fully supported apps, CrossOver worked like a charm: it rarely got in the way of running Windows software and it's easy to use when you know the program is fully supported.

**Testing results.** The latest 7.0.2 version adds support for Microsoft Office 2007 – compelling as long as you're not already using Office 2008 for the Mac, released in January. Some companies have a standard desktop that requires everyone to run the approved Office version (likely for Windows). So if Mac users can install CrossOver, they can run Office 2007 in a matter of minutes.

In tests, Word 2007 worked just fine for typing up documents. However, many features – the clip organiser, charts, and mail merges, for example – did not work. Both Excel and Outlook crashed a few times on my MacBook Pro. However, I did run Outlook 2007 for long periods – marking incoming e-mails with urgency flags, viewing a task list, and setting up my day-to-day schedule – without problems. Codeweavers says it is currently tweaking Wine for full Office 2007 compatibility and acknowledges that CrossOver support for Office 2007 is still a bit rough around the edges.

For officially unsupported apps, Codeweavers hosts a forum where users can report their experiences in testing software and award colour-coded badges to indicate the program's level of support. For example, you can find out if Quicken 2008 runs well (gold), has some minor or major issues (silver or bronze), or will not run at all ("Not known to work"). (Visio 2003 might work, while Quickbooks likely won't.) CodeWeavers oversees the forums for user advocates who test Windows programs, but does not provide a standard testing methodology or distinguish test results by hardware specifications. It also provides some Wine testing scripts.

I would strongly prefer that CrossOver maintain a database of supported commercial software and, when I attempt an install, present an alert box with information about whether the program will work. This would save me a trip to the web site. For example, I tried to install Adobe Photoshop CS3 before checking the support forums. During the installation, CrossOver merely acted as if it were waiting for the installation to complete. It never did, so I had to quit CrossOver and, eventually, had to reboot entirely. A simple alert that CS3 apps will definitely not work, or showing the related "gold" and "silver" rankings, would have helped immensely. CodeWeavers says it is working on more alerts for the next release.

CodeWeavers does offer exceptional e-mail- and telephone-based tech support. For one problem – running the unsupported version of Adobe Photoshop CS3 for Windows – tech support responded in three hours and provided a concise answer: the application is not supported at all. For another problem – printing to a PDF file in Word – the support was much more helpful, providing a clear solution (use the CUPS-PDF driver and print to PDF) in the same time period.

**Australian Macworld's buying advice.** CrossOver Mac Professional 7.0.2 costs less than either Parallels or Fusion, and it's easier to use and install. Plus, you don't need a copy of Windows XP or any other Windows version. Unfortunately, its performance did not match our expectations. The release version we tested did not work with Office 2007 very well, and does not fully support the latest Adobe products or the coolest Windows games. ☹️

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Type	VNC client for iPhone
Rating	★★★★
Pros	Responsive, supports full resolution of Mac screens; better mouse handling than Mocha
Cons	Steep asking price by App Store standards
OS X	iPhone 2.0
RRP	\$29.99
Publisher	Jugaari
Distributor	App Store
Reviewer	Rob Griffiths
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## Teleport for iPhone

Type	VNC client for iPhone
Rating	★★★★
Pros	Responsive, supports full resolution of Mac screens; better mouse handling than Mocha
Cons	Steep asking price by App Store standards
OS X	iPhone 2.0
RRP	\$29.99
Publisher	Jugaari
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# Teleport

## View and control networked machines with your iPhone

**M**uch like Mocha VNC, Teleport is a virtual network computing (VNC) client for the iPhone that allows you to see and control Macs and PCs on your network. While both programs do similar things, there are some big differences between the two.

When launched, Teleport will scan your network and find any machines on which you've enabled sharing – you can then select the proper machine, enter the password, and save that connection for future use. This is a big timesaver over Mocha VNC, which requires you to set up all servers manually.

Once connected to a machine, you'll find that Teleport can display all of that machine's displays, and display them at their full resolution. Mocha VNC is limited to one display at a maximum resolution of 1680x1200. You can rotate the screen horizontally, and use the usual iPhone gestures to zoom in or out on the display. Beyond zooming, though, Teleport offers a full suite of gestures to do those things you'd do on a Mac or PC. A two-finger tap is a right-click; drag is a double-tap, followed by a drag motion; move scroll bars with two-finger vertical swipes; send the Left and Right Arrow keys with a two-fingered horizontal swipe.

Once you memorise these gestures, interacting with a machine on Teleport is much more intuitive than it is using Mocha. Another Teleport feature is that it sends mouse events (clicks, drags, and so on) to the location of the always-visible mouse pointer. Mocha, when in mouse mode, moves the mouse pointer to the spot you tapped.

This may seem like a minor difference, but it's actually a huge advantage for Teleport – because your finger's position is independent of the pointer, you can see what

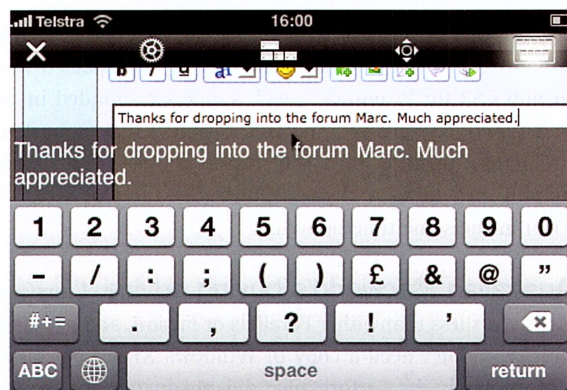
would otherwise be located under your finger when using Mocha. If your finger happens to be covering something you want to see, just pick it up and place it somewhere else; the mouse pointer will stay right where it is. After spending some time with Teleport, using Mocha's click-and-set-position method really felt slow and clunky, and my finger was seemingly always in the way of just what it was I wanted to see.

Another innovation in Teleport has to do with the keyboard. When you're typing in a remote program over a network connection, there's always going to be some lag, and that makes accurate typing difficult. To help with that problem, Teleport echoes your typing locally, in an area immediately above the keyboard. This makes it much easier to write accurately, even if the network connection is slow.

Teleport includes the other features you might expect in a remote control application, such as additional on-screen keyboards (including a panel dedicated for use with a media centre application) for extra keys, on-screen soft keys for Control, Alt, and Command, and a settings page to disable screen rotation and/or cursor momentum, and set a few other settings. Like Mocha VNC, though, this version will not encrypt your sessions, so it's best used in a local, behind-the-firewall, environment.

So what's not to like? The current version is a bit buggy – I had it crash on me once, and occasionally, the remote screen will stop responding to taps. (Quitting and reconnecting solves that problem.) Also, the program currently won't work with servers running RealVNC, which is more of an issue for those connecting to Windows boxes. Both of these issues are apparently addressed in an update that's in the works.

**Australian Macworld's buying advice.** If you want to just check on a remote machine occasionally, and not actually do very much with it, then either Mocha VNC version will probably meet your needs. If, on the other hand, you need to really work with remote machines, Teleport is a worthwhile investment, even with its current issues.



**Speed input.** The area above the keyboard shows your typing in real time, even if you're on a slow network connection



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# Canon EOS 450D

*dSLR made easy and fun*



The 450D is smallish, light at just over a half kilo with kit lens attached; but the happy word is that it can be operated as a point/shoot if you need to. At the launch of the camera, in a TimeZone video-game arcade, I needed to.

With ISO sensitivity at 800 I enjoyed plenty of elbow-room in the low light. I could view through the optical finder or the 7.6cm LCD screen. The latter gave a bright Live View picture but auto-focus was inoperative. No probs – I simply tapped the focus lock button. Using the optical finder AF was always in play but the penalty was my face was stuck to the camera.

The CMOS has a 12.2 megapixel count which allows a decent 48x32cm print. There's a composite TV output but no HDMI or component interface, so you won't be running your efforts on a High Def TV. If that's something you need, get one of the compacts that do – at half the price.

But dSLR photography is another beast. The camera can capture in RAW or JPEG or RAW+JPEG. You can shoot at 3.5fps, with the AF system tracking a moving subject.

The 450D gives first time users a gentle intro: easy presets take care of sports, fixed focus landscapes or depth enhancing portraits. The brave can shoot in Program AE, manual and aperture or shutter priority.

The big bug of DSLR – dust entry – is squashed, thanks to a cleaning system that operates at camera power on and off, or you can trigger it at any time. There's also an intricate routine involving software that can remove the presence of dust spots in the image after downloading.

**Australian Macworld's buying advice.** The 450D should rock the camera world with its ease of use. I saw my ISO 800 shooting on a big cinema screen and was truly bowled over.

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# Twitter apps for iPhone

*Keep you in touch*

Twitter is a fun service that lets you keep in touch with your friends and other people you only wish you knew. Like many people, I've come to rely on it as a back channel that keeps me in touch with my colleagues and friends in ways that e-mail and instant messaging simply can't. And since the iPhone was first released, I've used web interfaces to Twitter to read and post Twitter items, known as "tweets," when I'm on the go.

With the release of the App Store, there are now several native Twitter clients for the iPhone. All of these programs show immense promise as well as numerous warts.

**Twitterrific.** The Iconfactory's Twitterrific is my favourite Mac client for the Twitter social-messaging service, and the new iPhone edition of Twitterrific is my favourite of the first generation of iPhone apps.

Twitterrific displays tweets from your contacts and lets you send tweets. The program includes integration with twitpic.com, so you can take a photo (or pick one from your photo library) and the program will automatically upload it and embed its URL in your tweet. An embedded web browser lets you tap on user names or hyperlinks and view the contents without having to switch out of the program and into Safari.

The program's interface is excellent, combining simplicity with solid functionality. A series of slide-out "hint" screens appear for new users, cleverly helping

to teach you how the program works. But I found the program's large single-tweet view to be mostly a waste of time.

Although Twitterrific provides me with 95 percent of what I use Twitter for, there's still plenty of room for the iPhone version to grow, especially given the tough competition of several excellent iPhone-optimised Twitter web interfaces, most notably Hahlo. Twitterrific can't display all the messages from a given friend; also, it doesn't let you filter tweets to see only your direct messages, messages replying to your tweets, or a list of your own recent tweets. The program's scrolling also feels sluggish.

**Twinkle.** Tapulous' Twinkle is a strong competitor to Twitterrific, but its colourful interface (bright yellow, blue, and grey word balloons on a dark starscape background) is distracting and harder to read than Twitterrific's.

Twinkle's best trait is its location awareness. When you post to Twinkle, other Twinkle users can see what city you're tweeting from. And a tap on the Nearby button lets you see tweets from Twinkle users near you, which is pretty cool. However, I wish I could opt to view tweets only from nearby users I follow, and there's no way to block nearby users whose tweets you might find distasteful. (Tapulous says such a method will be available in a forthcoming update.) Because Twinkle's location-savvy functionality works via a proxy server run by



Tapulous, only Twinkle users can appear in the Nearby list, and only other Twinkle users can see what city you're tweeting from.

I'm not thrilled about Twinkle's reliance on a Tapulous server as a mediator between your iPhone and Twitter. Yes, that approach lets Twinkle include some clever non-Twitter features such as location-based services, but only for other Twinkle users. When Twitter is down, you'll still be able to send Tweets – but they won't go to Twitter until it comes back up. Likewise, if Twitter is up and the Twinkle server goes down, you could be cut off from the rest of the Twitterverse. And I found it a little disconcerting that Tapulous's TwinkleKing account, who I don't follow on Twitter, was able to send me spam about Twinkle-related contests and the like. You can't block those TwinkleKing messages.

**Twittelator.** Big Stone Phone's Twittelator is in many ways the polar opposite of Twitterrific. Twitterrific's interface is terrific for reading your friends' timeline and posting tweets, but it doesn't let you dive deep into the features of Twitter. Twittelator, in contrast, has a much less refined interface, but supports every Twitter feature imaginable.

From Twittelator, you can view your friends timeline, your own timeline, your replies, your direct messages, the timelines of other users, the friends of the people you follow, you name it. You can search for text on all of Twitter. If you tap on a friend's icon, you immediately see all their Twitter stats.

If Twitterrific could improve by adding a bit more functionality, Twittelator could benefit from a dramatic tightening of its interface. I found the layout of its main tweet list a bit strange, with numerous small items that were difficult to tap on, and tweet text isn't as readable as I'd like. Yet it's actually the least dense of the three programs, forcing you to scroll more.

Twittelator's most bizarre feature is its "Emergency icon" which, according to Stone Design, lets you "create a Tweet with a map of your current location." The latest update to the software allows you to hide the button, which is a good thing. Twitter's great and all, but if you're in trouble, sending an automated tweet about it via a button that's easily pushed by mistake doesn't seem like it should be high up on your list of options.

**Australian Macworld's buying advice.** Twitterrific is currently the classiest of the Twitter client apps on the iPhone, but it's got stiff competition close behind. What Twitterrific lacks in features, it more than makes up for by getting the interface and most important parts of Twitter – reading and posting tweets – right.

Twinkle is a lot of fun and quite innovative, showing how location information adds to the richness of Twitter. If only Twitter supported location information in a useful, native way – I'm not thrilled about Twinkle's use of an intermediary server, nor the inability to block unpleasant people who might be near you. Its interface could also use a bit of toning down, at least as an option.

I'm mightily impressed by all of Twittelator's features. If you're someone who frequently surfs around your friends' timelines and the public Twitter timeline, it's a better choice than Twitterrific. If most of your Twitter time is spent reading your friends timeline and posting tweets, it's not.

The good news is, all three of these programs are free, so you can download them for yourself if you're not sure about which one is right for you. (Unlike Twinkle and Twittelator, Twitterrific's free version is supported by occasional ads in the tweet list. You must buy Twitterrific Premium to block those ads.)

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Firefox 3.0	
Type	Web browser
Rating	★★★★½
Pros	Dozens of useful add-ons; first-rate rendering engine; improved interface
Cons	Significantly slower rendering than Safari; bookmarks must be edited in separate window; a few minor bugs
OS X	10.5
Processor	Universal
RRP	Free
Publisher	Mozilla
Distributor	Available online
Reviewer	Nathan Alderman
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# Firefox 3.0

## *A worthy and welcome upgrade*

As powerful as ever and considerably more polished, Firefox 3 is an improvement on its useful but somewhat clunky predecessor in nearly every respect. However, users may not get all of the dramatic speed boosts its programmers promise.

Everything good about Firefox 2 is present in the new version. Its top-notch Gecko rendering engine displays even the trickiest pages almost flawlessly, and the new version passes the Acid2 test for web standards compliance with flying colours. The worst errors I noticed in my tests were some flickering in Flash video ads that changed size within the browser window, and one minor glitch in rendering a complex CSS trick. Firefox's many customisable features are back, too, including dozens of invaluable third-party add-ons, like blog editor ScribeFire and code inspector Firebug.

Building on these useful features, Firefox 3 adds a host of welcome improvements. The new Firefox sports the program's most Mac-like look and feel yet, with a sleek silver design and buttons that make it look like Safari's more futuristic cousin. The new location bar, which Mozilla dubs the awesome bar, builds on web browsers' common auto-complete functions by guessing at your destination based on your bookmarks and user history. The awesome bar also examines any tags users may have added to their bookmarks, another clever new addition. For example, users can tag their bookmark of Apple's web site with words like "Steve Jobs," "iMac," and "iPhone," then jump directly to the site just by typing any of those words into the URL field.

Bookmarks in general are greatly improved from Firefox 2, thanks to the addition of a star-shaped button that creates a new bookmark for the currently displayed site when clicked. New smart folders can also aggregate bookmarks based on users' search terms. Unfortunately, you'll still have to edit your bookmarks in a separate window, which is awkward compared to Safari's more convenient one-window approach.

Firefox 3 has also amped up its security features. One click on a site's favicon (on the location bar) brings up a handy window that summarises how secure the site is, and whether Firefox thinks you can trust it with your data. The new version promises to alert users when they surf to phony sites out to steal personal information or attack unsuspecting computers with malicious scripts. These security judgments are based on reports from Firefox users, and on information from Google's phishing protection service, also used for Gmail. Mercifully, power users who don't need such warnings can specify which alerts Firefox should display via the program's Preferences.

On a 2.16GHz MacBook, Firefox 3 took more than twice as long (4 seconds) to complete an XHTML rendering test as Firefox 2 (1.5 seconds). On a 2GHz iMac G5, Firefox 3 took roughly 6.5 seconds, while Firefox 2 completed the test in 3.2 seconds. A CSS rendering test showed similar results; on both PPC (936 ms vs. 415 ms) and Intel (396 ms vs. 193 ms), Firefox 3 performed twice as slowly as Firefox 2. Only JavaScript performance showed a notable—at times remarkable—improvement on every platform. A suite of tests that took roughly 2.4 seconds in Firefox 2 on the PPC was completed in nearly 1.26 seconds in Firefox 3. On Intel, Firefox 3's 0.61 seconds blazed past Firefox 2's 1.29 seconds.

Despite these improvements, Safari 3's speed trounced Firefox 3 on both platforms. On the MacBook, Safari 3 was roughly eight times faster than Firefox 3 in the XHTML test (0.51 seconds), three times faster in JavaScript (0.23 seconds), and more than 10 times faster in CSS (38 ms). On the iMac G5, Safari 3 was almost six times faster in XHTML (1.1 seconds), 1.5 times faster in JavaScript (0.83 seconds), and nearly six times faster in CSS (158 ms).

Firefox 3 does feel a bit more responsive when opening large numbers of tabs simultaneously; it still grinds a bit, but unlike Safari, you can scroll horizontally through the entire list of tabs as they load. Our tests revealed a few other hiccups—the Bookmarks pane sometimes failed to display its header, for instance—but none were particularly inconvenient.

**Australian Macworld's buying advice.** For speed alone, Safari's still the king. However, users more concerned with a polished interface, handy features, unmatched extensibility, and sterling standards compliance will find Firefox 3 a worthy alternative. 





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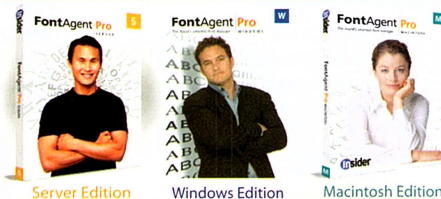
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# The deadly art of technology

Technology is a dangerous game. I'm not talking here about what happens if you go all rock star and throw your iMac into the swimming pool, or the exact sensations you get if you open up a Mac Pro and waggle your tongue around inside. (As a side note, neither I nor Australian Macworld suggest you do either of those things. Well, maybe the first. But remember to take pictures. Still, to be on the safe side, I didn't suggest it, OK? It was the voices in YOUR head, and don't forget to tell the judge that.)

In any case, you can tell that technology is a dangerous pursuit, simply from the jargon used. Take cables, for example. You might think that a standard Ethernet cable is an innocuous little beast, but think about this: It doesn't just end — it terminates. The Unix underpinning of OS X doesn't allow for processes to shuffle off to an early retirement — they're killed. When the little ball on top of the Mighty Mouse stops working (about thirty-seven seconds after you unpack it, according to most sources), what is it? It's dead, that's what it is. Support for OS 9? Dead. FireWire charging pins on the iPhone 3G? Deceased. Apple Display Connector? Pushin' up the bleedin' daisies, innit?

Sorry about that. It's sort of hard for me to mention death and not slip into Monty Python mode. It's also quite hard right at the moment not to notice that the usual fatal nature of IT is slipping out into the headlines and the hype surrounding the iPhone 3G launch. Just as with the iPod before it, every single competing device isn't just vying for consumer dollars in an

open marketplace. Oh no. They're "iPhone Killers".

From the Samsung Omnia to the Blackberry Bold to HTC's Touch line, mobile phone manufacturers are falling over themselves to come up with models that compete with the iPhone 3G. In all truth, this is a good thing; anyone who thinks that all the development of prior models hasn't helped the iPhone/iPhone 3G along is fooling themselves, and further competition and development can only help make future phones (whoever makes them) that much more tasty. The same is true in any tech field — if Apple were the only operating system company, I don't doubt for a second that it would pull back somewhat on the R&D, simply because the competitive reasons for doing so would be substantially lessened. The results for us users would be operating systems with fewer interesting features. Well, either that, or it really would become the year of Linux on the desktop.

Actually, Linux offers an interesting case study here. The CEO of Canonical, Mark Shuttleworth recently said that he wants Ubuntu to become "more beautiful" than OS X, which sounds very nice and hippy-flowers-in-your-hair. Except that he also wants Ubuntu to "shoot past" OS X, which has depressing gun-related connotations to deal with.

But getting back to my core, point, iPhone killer? Really? I mean, leaving aside any other factor, if your phone is an iPhone killer, I don't want it anywhere near anybody, simply because I'll be stopping the million or so customers who bought one on launch weekend from making any calls. The value of a mobile network is in the number of people you can reach on it, and anything that reduces that



number has to be a bad thing.

Now, there's a part of me that does suspect that somewhere in deepest darkest Norway, there's a division of the competing phone manufacturers toiling away on a multi-functional device that also happens to, when in proximity with an iPhone 3G, launches a small laser to melt the device.

Of course, they'll have to get past the legal issues, such as what happens when the phone is suddenly tilted just as the laser was about to melt an 8GB iPhone 3G, and instead fries somebody's Chihuahua. Actually, in the context of Chihuahuas, that might be a good thing, but somebody's bound to be upset anyway.

Not that there's not a place for such technology, but describing something as an "iPhone Killer" is perhaps energy that's not being pitched the right way. Build me a smartphone that, say, transforms into a Dalek and exterminates the annoying sods on the train that play mobile phone music stupidly loud, or the endless fools who, upon seeing my MacBook, ask me if I don't understand a "real computer" and I'll be the first one queuing up for it.

Are you listening, Steve? 🐼

## Hotlinks

Where all that energy should be going

[en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dalek](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dalek)

Suspect #1: iPhone "killer", or just another smartphone?

[www.blackberry.com/blackberrybold/](http://www.blackberry.com/blackberrybold/)

Suspect #2: iPhone "killer", or just another pretty phone?

[omnia.samsungmobile.com/](http://omnia.samsungmobile.com/)



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